

5-year formula may solve Britain's EEC problems

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 23

A new deal for Britain's contribution to the EEC budget looked distinctly possible tonight after another formula to break the long deadlock on the subject received cautious support from all member states was put before foreign ministers meeting here today and is to be studied carefully in EEC capitals between now and April 3. On that day the foreign ministers are to meet again in Luxembourg to try to reach a final settlement.

Essentially, the suggested formula would last for five years. There would be an agreed lump sum compensation for Britain for each of the first three years and a separate agreement negotiated during 1984 for the last two years. So far no review is suggested at the end of this period.

There would be trigger thresholds which could increase or decrease the size of compensation depending on the way Britain's gross domestic product (GDP) varied as a proportion of the Community's total GDP. No real figures are mentioned in the formula and the amount of compensation and the threshold levels are simply referred to as X, Y and Z.

Before the end of the meeting Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, warned his colleagues that the suggested formula contained good things and bad things. "I suspect the meeting in Luxembourg will be pretty hard work", he said afterwards.

The date chosen for the negotiation follows immediately a special three-day meeting in Brussels of agriculture ministers who will be trying to set farm prices for the present season. Lord Carrington said that agreement on the prices would have to be "in parallel" with agreement on the budget package. This suggests that Britain will only be prepared to agree an agricultural price increase subject to agreement on the following day on the budget.

M. Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, described the suggested formula as "interesting", said it was important that the link was now broken between agricultural prices and the budget question.

Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, and current President of the Council, who drew up the new formula with Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the European Commission, was able to report that enough progress had been made to make it unnecessary for the subject of the budget to be put on the agenda for next week's European summit.

But will not stop Mrs Thatcher from raising the subject at some stage. She is likely once again to emphasize that Britain's estimated contribution for 1982 will be badly distorted



Tractors head a march by 100,000 French farmers in Paris protesting at the decline in their living standards.

Tied vote on Begin censure

The future of Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister (above), and his Government was in doubt after the Knesset reached a tied vote of 56 to 56 on a no confidence motion over the Government's handling of events in the occupied territories and other aspects of its record.

Begin under fire, page 6

Nigeria halts all imports

Nigeria has suspended almost all its imports because of falling revenue caused by the world oil glut, according to a Reuters report. The decision is likely to hit Britain hard as a fifth of Nigeria's non-oil imports, worth £1,200m, came from this country in 1980.

Page 13

Jenkins trails in opinion poll

A Gallup poll in today's *Daily Telegraph* puts Labour in the lead for tomorrow's by-election in Glasgow, Hillhead, with 35.5 per cent. The Conservatives have 27 per cent and Mr Roy Jenkins for the SD-Liberal Alliance is third with 26 per cent.

Campaign reports, page 2

London police chief confirmed

Sir Kenneth Newman, aged 55, commander of the Police College and a former head of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, was officially confirmed as successor to Sir David McNea as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police in October.

Profile, page 10

Astronauts get down to work

A song by the country singer Willie Nelson woke the astronauts on board the Columbia shuttle at the start of their second day in space. They performed a variety of experiments and were feeling well.

Page 6

Plessey sit-in ruling upheld

The Court of Session in Edinburgh has upheld a ruling that Plessey workers who occupied a factory at Bathgate, Lothian for eight weeks in an attempt to save their jobs had a legal right to continue their action.

Page 3

The Home Office 200 years on

For 200 years the main task of the Home Office has been to uphold law and order. Controversy, as the Home Secretary may reflect this week, is nothing new. A bi-centenary profile of this "first" department of government is on page 8.

England held to draw in Bilbao

England drew 1-1 with Spanish club Athletic Bilbao in Spain last night. Kevin Keegan scored England's goal.

Smelter hopes

The prospect of reopening the aluminium smelter at Invergordon, Scotland, raised after a ministerial meeting. New plans are to be prepared for a tariff structure for cheap electricity at the plant.

City in crisis

On a December night in 1973 a secret meeting took place at the Bank of England to try to stop a company collapse which threatened to throw the City into panic. Margaret Reid, reconstructs the meeting, chaired by the Governor of the Bank, which tried unsuccessfully to stave off a banking crisis.

Page 15

Leader page 11
Letters: On Ulster, from Mr Julian Amery, MP; on police, from Mr J. Anderson; on bus parking, from Mr M. Butlin
Leading articles: Crime rate; West Bank
Features: page 10
Patrick Coughlin from East Germany on a growing peace movement; Sir Kenneth Newman, new commissioner of the Metropolitan Police; Reagan and the mid-West
Obituary, page 12
Mr Alec Warren, Mr H. M. Balfie

Home News 2-5	Obituary 12
Overseas 6-7	Parliament 4
Amis 9	Property 21
Arts 10	Sale Room 12
Business 13-16	Science 7
Court 12	Snow reports 19
Crossword 24	Short 17-19
Diary 10	TV & Radio 23
Events 24	Theatre, etc 8
Law Report 23	Weather 24
Lure cartoon 7	Wills 12

Jobless dip below 3 million

By Melvyn Westlake

Better news on the jobs front provided some welcome relief for the Government yesterday, just 48 hours ahead of the Glasgow Hillhead by-election. The number of registered unemployed has dipped below three million this month, and Scotland has shown the biggest drop in joblessness among all the regions.

The overall total of jobless has fallen by 53,000 to 2,922,000. This represents the biggest March fall since figures were first prepared in their present form, in 1948, and the largest fall in any month since September, 1979.

However, the underlying trend, which excludes seasonal fluctuations, shows a further small increase of 5,000. The number of jobless on this narrow definition stands at 2,922,000 or 11.8 per cent of the labour force. Although the trend is still upward, it is now unmistakably clear that the rate of increase is slowing down.

The average monthly rise in jobless, seasonally adjusted, has been under 20,000 this year, compared with 50,000 last summer and 100,000 a month at the end of 1980. Unemployment among school leavers has also shown a marked improvement. The fall this month (down 17,000) is the biggest in any March since the school-leaving age was raised in 1976.

But, while Whitehall is deriving some satisfaction from the latest figures, there is little likelihood of any sustained improvement in the underlying position. Adult unemployment is expected to go on rising for a few more months before flattening out. The overall total of registered unemployed is certain to rise above three million again by at least the early summer.

The Government is assuming, for the purpose of calculating social security payments, Continued on back page, col 5

Navy to close seven training schools

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Some of the Royal Navy's most famous training schools are to close and 4,000 sailors made redundant in a reshaping of the senior service following last year's defence review. Job losses, moreover, could continue.

Details were being flashed around the fleet last night in a lengthy signal from the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Henry Leach, who paid tribute to the way seamen had got on with their work during the past nine months of uncertainty.

The 4,000 redundancies, mainly among senior officers and ratings, are among a total of 10,000 job losses announced in the Government's special White Paper after the defence review last June.

The first 500 names will be made known later this month, 2,000 more, including 500 officers, by the end of the year, and the rest in 1983. By 1986, the Navy's manpower will be down by 10,000 to 62,000, and the reductions could continue in the late 1980s unless more funds are pumped into defence.

The closure of seven training bases, in their present role, will also mean 500 civilian job losses in addition to the 12,000 already announced, mainly as a result of dockyard closures and cutbacks at Chatham and Portsmouth. About 300 of the new civilian cuts will again be at Portsmouth.

The training establishments, their present designation and the dates by which they are to close are: HMS Phoenix, Portsmouth, nuclear, biological and chemical warfare training, 1984; HMS Pembroke, Chatham, supply and secretariat, 1983; HMS Caledonia, Rosyth, engineering artificers, 1985; the Fraser gunnery range, Portsmouth, 1983; HMS Figs, Torquay, artificers entry, 1983; HMS Vernon, Portsmouth, diving and mine warfare, 1984-86; HMS Excellent, Portsmouth, assorted training, 1984-85.

Liberal's GLC election return ruled illegal

By Richard Evans

A Greater London councillor was ordered to pay legal costs estimated at £50,000 yesterday after an election court found he had committed "illegal practices" involving election campaign expenses.

Mr Adrian Slade, who defeated a Conservative candidate by 115 votes in Richmond and Barnes last May to become the only Liberal on the GLC, will keep his seat although he completed his election expenses return and the declaration covering the return.

Mr Anthony Cripps, the commissioner who presided over the three-and-a-half week hearing at Twickenham, also found that Mr Slade's agent, Mrs Pat Wainwright, had committed the same illegal practices.

But he said he was satisfied the illegalities had arisen through "inadvertence and lack of knowledge of the law" and granted relief to expunge the illegalities. He ruled that nothing corrupt had occurred.

Last night Mr John Holmes, the Liberal Party's national agent, said that it was a test case brought by the Conservative Party against the Liberal's type of campaigning, which was built upon voluntary effort. It would mean a tightening up of practice for all agents.

Guatemala officers stage coup

The Guatemalan Army

yesterday announced the overthrow of President Romeo Lucas Garcia and said a representative government junta had been established.

Reuter reported from Guatemala City. A communiqué read in a national radio and television broadcast by General Siles Otero, former vice-presidential candidate, called on all Guatemalans to back the coup.

The coup was mounted by a group of young officers, adding one more element of confusion to the turbulence of Central America, Peter Straford writes.

In Guatemala City, troops surrounded the presidential palace, and aircraft flew overhead.

Two men, General Efraín Ríos Montt and General Leonel Siles Otero, were urged to report to the national radio station immediately. General Ríos Montt is a former presidential candidate, who stood for election in 1974 with the backing of the Christian Democrats.

Senior Siles Otero was a vice-presidential candidate in the election held earlier this month, when he was on the ticket of the National Liberation Movement.

Guatemala has been under military rule for several years, and has one of the worst records of repression in Latin America. It is estimated that at least 3,500 people died in political violence last year, and guerrillas have gained strength.

Salvador threat, page 6

Continued on back page, col 4

ADVERTISEMENTS

Does Your Memory Fail You?

A WORLD-FAMOUS memory expert, who has trained industrialists, trades unionists, businessmen, professional men, salesmen, housewives and students to improve their memories, said recently:

"Many people are embarrassed by a poor memory, and find difficulty in concentrating; whilst others realise that they lose business, academic and social opportunities not only because they cannot remember accurately everything they see, hear or read, but also because they cannot think or express their thoughts, clearly, logically and concisely. Some seek advice, but many do not, mainly because they believe their memories cannot be improved."

Rapid Results

According to this remarkable man, anyone - regardless of his present skill - can, in just 15 minutes a day, improve his memory and concentration to a remarkable degree. For example, you need never forget another appointment ever! You can learn names, faces, facts, figures and foreign languages faster than you ever thought possible. You will be able to imprint whole books on your memory after a single reading. You'll be more successful in your studies and examinations. At parties and dinners you'll never again be at a loss for appropriate words or entertaining stories. In fact, you'll be more poised and self-confident in everything you say and do.

Free

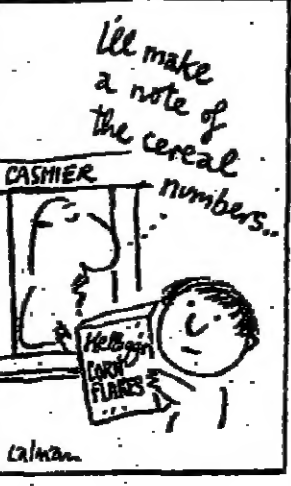
To acquaint all readers of The Times with the easy-to-follow rules for developing skill in remembering, we, the publishers, have printed full details of this interesting self-training method in a fascinating book, "Adventures in Memory", sent free on request. No obligation. No salesman will call. Just fill in and return the coupon on Page 4 (you don't even need to stamp your envelope) or write to Memory and Concentration Studies, (Dept. TSMG), FREEPOST 38, London W1E 6QZ.

WHAT THIS FREE BOOK WILL SHOW YOU

- How to remember names and faces!
- How to remember facts and figures!
- How to learn faster!
- How to concentrate!
- How to overcome absent-mindedness!
- How to increase your personal efficiency!
- How to speak fluently without notes!
- How to succeed in examinations!
- How to develop a powerful memory!

New Technique

And yet, he went on to explain, he has devised a new, simple technique which can



NEWS IN SUMMARY

Price freeze worries farmers

The National Farmers' Union expressed dismay at yesterday's announcement that there will be no increase in the guaranteed prices for potatoes or wool (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food told the Commons that the potato price for 1982 would remain at £44.64 a ton and that the Potato Marketing Board would be able to purchase up to 600,000 tons and remove them from the market in the event of a glut.

Millionaire is cleared

Mr Oliver Cutts, aged 62, a self-made millionaire, handed brochures advertising Rhine cruises to members of a jury at Dorchester Crown Court, after being cleared of assault yesterday. A former coalman, he had worn morning dress throughout the seven-day trial. He denied indecently assaulting his sister-in-law, Mrs Jennifer Hankin, of Parsonage Drive, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, and assaulting Mr John Hankin, her husband, and Mrs Ann Taylor, aged 39, of Avonmore, Fordingbridge.

£200m cost of winter

Britain's harsh winter will cost about £200m in insurance payouts. It is the largest figure ever recorded for a natural disaster in the United Kingdom, the British Insurance Association announced yesterday. The final sum could well be higher.

Most are claims for damage caused by burst pipes, but there have also been many claims for damage to machinery. Claims are still being received.

Abortion role in Ireland

A referendum is to be held in the Irish Republic this year on a constitutional amendment to prevent abortions ever being allowed in the state.

A vigorous campaign is expected in the build-up to the referendum, but public opinion is vehemently against abortion. Last year, official figures showed that 3,300 Irish women had abortions in Britain, but unofficial figures are understood to be at least three times higher.

Stewardess with smile bows out

Roz Hanby, aged 30, British Airways smiling stewardess, who has been the central character in the airline's advertising campaign for seven years, was given a farewell party at Heathrow airport, London, yesterday when she "flew the flag" for the last time.

From next month she will present a television show called *That Monday Morning Feeling*. In her time as a stewardess she has flown half a million miles and visited 50 countries.

Nervous Tories and Labour attack Jenkins

From Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent, Glasgow

The Conservative and Labour camps yesterday exposed their extreme nervousness over the result of tomorrow's by-election in Glasgow, Hillhead, by launching highly personalized attacks on Mr Roy Jenkins, the Social Democratic Party/Alliance candidate.

With the latest Scottish opinion poll putting Mr Jenkins four points ahead of a second-placed Conservative, and with canvass returns showing a steady erosion of the Labour vote, both parties yesterday concentrated their fire on the man described by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, as a "colour supplement socialist".

Mr Bruce Millan, Glasgow, Craighall, and a member of the Shadow Cabinet, told Labour's morning press conference: "There is a considerable feeling that we do need an active local MP in this area."

He added, in a reference to Sir Tam Galbraith, the former Conservative member who died in January: "The fact is that it is a constituency that has suffered very considerably from neglect, to put it frankly, from its former MP for a very large number of years."

Mr Millan said: "There is a strong feeling that Mr Jenkins is an outsider with no real interest in the constituency. He had, incidentally, a poor reputation as a constituency member in Birmingham when he was a member there."

Mr Millan, a former Secretary of State for Scotland, told a questioner: "If people who neglected their constituencies never got re-elected, we would have had a change in Hillhead many, many years ago."

Mr Millan did not want to attack Sir Tam Galbraith, but anyone who knows the area knows that it was not a well looked after constituency."

Mr David Wiseman, the Labour candidate, followed up a powerful public meeting addressed by Mr Wedgwood Benn in the constituency on Monday, by emphasizing yet again that he was not a Bennite.

He said: "I do not believe in everything that Mr Benn stands for. I do not believe in him being the Great Messiah. That is what Bennite means."

Teachers' outline strikes

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The two largest teachers' unions yesterday announced details of their joint plans for half-day strikes, starting next week, if the Burnham Committee, which negotiates teachers' pay, fails substantially to increase its 3.4 per cent offer or to refer the claim to arbitration at its meeting tomorrow.

The National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers which represent more than three-quarters of all teachers, will stage a half-day strike next Tuesday afternoon in Wales, Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Avon, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Wiltshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Merseyside and Greater Manchester.

I am not a Bennite. I do not believe that he would classify himself as a Bennite.

Mr Gerald Malone, the Conservative candidate, attacked Mr Jenkins at his morning press conference. He said that his opponent was a southerner. "Mr Jenkins is not standing for Hillhead because he wants to represent Hillhead, but because he wants to get back into Parliament. Hillhead just happened to be there. I sincerely believe that Hillhead deserves a greater commitment than that."

But when Mr Millan's attack on the former Conservative member was reported, Mr Malone replied: "I do not believe that I want to discuss anything that might have happened or not happened in the past."

"My view is that I am not only prepared to be a hard working MP in Westminster, but I will consistently return to my home in the constituency."

Only when pressed did Mr Malone add that there was a great fund of personal respect and affection for Sir Tam, who first won Hillhead in a by-election in 1948.

Mr Malone added: "Perhaps when he was elected, there were different expectations of an MP. The new expectations I will certainly fulfil."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer told the press conference that if the by-election was put into perspective, halfway through a Parliament at a time when the Government was following "difficult policies" it was perhaps surprising that the Conservative candidate should have a solid, substantial prospect of success just two days before polling.

Sir Geoffrey refused to comment on yesterday's report in *THE TIMES* that the Government had set a target of 9 per cent reduction in council spending for 1983-84. He said: "The precise pattern of the reduction in local government spending has yet to be decided."

"But what is undoubtedly the case is that if local government, like any other part of government, spends more than is sensible, then it is likely to lead to an increase in rates or an increase in interest rates, both of which are bad for industry on which local government in the end depends."

Teachers' outline strikes

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

On the afternoon of Wednesday week, there will be strikes in Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Hampshire, Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex, the Isle of Wight, Herefordshire and Worcester, Staffordshire, Shropshire, the West Midlands, West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and Humberside.

Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the close cooperation between the two unions (which have not been known for their friendliness in the past), indicated the anger of teachers. Only a much improved offer or agreement to go to arbitration could resolve the dispute, he said.

Alliance warning over 'double'

From Jonathan Wills, Glasgow

Mr Roy Harris Jenkins grows "daily more confident of victory" at Hillhead, but he is clearly worried by the threat from Mr Roy Harold Jenkins, formerly Mr Douglas, whose name will appear immediately above his on the ballot papers tomorrow.

The SDP/Liberal Alliance campaign managers are so concerned that they have put out a leaflet warning supporters against voting for the wrong man by mistake. It says that Mr Parkin changed his name "to try to confuse the voters".

The real Mr Jenkins is also displeased with Mr Gerald Malone, the Conservative candidate. Mr Jenkins says Mr Malone has misrepresented his views on private education. Mr Jenkins says that his position is that "the right of parents to send their children to private schools is a legitimate human freedom that must be preserved."

Mr Jenkins faltered yesterday when, for the second time in two weeks, he was asked by a reporter where he stood on taxing social security and unemployment benefits. Did he have a policy?

"Not that I am announcing this morning, no." The position had been stated in the Commons by the party spokesman, Mr Michael Thomas. What was that position? "I cannot remember."

Then, after consultation, Mr Jenkins agreed that he was in favour of taxing benefits.

Mr Jenkins was on firmer ground when he spoke about devolution for Scotland. The SDP commitment was clear, he said, and stemmed quite naturally from the party's general philosophy.

On cuts in local authority budgets he said that although there had been some "fat" in council spending, he thought that the cuts had gone too deep. That was inflicting "severe blows on very necessary and valuable services" such as housing.

Mr Jenkins deplored the Conservatives' attempt to make law and order "a great party issue". He also criticized the Conservative candidate for joining in the "sniping" against Mr William Whitlaw, the Home Secretary.

May 1979 result: 12,368 (Lab), 10,366 (Con), 3,055 (SDP), 2,002 (Clerical).



Sandra Radley: 90-mile triathlete

Girl faces more leg surgery

A student whose severed right leg was sewn back after a road accident was said to be in a satisfactory condition in hospital yesterday.

Sandra Radley, aged 17, of Anderson Road, Scunthorpe, was in the intensive care unit at the regional plastic surgery and burns unit in Whittington Hospital, Manchester. She was 90 miles to the hospital by ambulance, with a police escort.

Five surgeons performed an eight-hour operation using microsurgery techniques for which the hospital has become well known. A spokesman said yesterday that it was too early to talk about the operation being permanently successful. The girl would undergo secondary surgery in due course.

By using improved microsurgery techniques, British surgeons have been replacing accidentally amputated limbs since 1966. The first recorded operation was in 1964 (Our Medical Correspondent writes).

Under a microscope surgical thread invisible to the naked eye is used to join blood vessels half a millimetre in diameter. The surgery has been speeded up by the introduction of multi-headed microscopes.

The immediate task is to restore the circulation to the severed limb, which will survive six to eight hours at room temperature, or longer if cooled in ice in ambulances. As in Sandra Radley's case, it is often necessary for the nerves to be operated on later.

Sandra Radley's amputation was above the knee. The higher the amputation, the larger the blood vessels and the better the chance of the limb surviving.



Four stamps featuring British youth organizations that have grown worldwide go on sale today: Boy's Brigade (15p), Girl's Brigade (19p), the Scouts (26p) and Guides and Brownies (29p).

Figures likely to back Alderson

By Craig Seton

One of the highest crime detection rates in Britain is expected to be reported soon by Devon and Cornwall Police, whose chief constable, Mr John Alderson, was reportedly criticised by Mr William Whitlaw, the Home Secretary, on Monday.

It is understood that the crime statistics for the south-west force for 1981 will show crimes cleared up at the rate of 42 per cent for the Metropolitan Police.

Opponents of tougher policing measures which are being urged on Mr Whitlaw are likely to use the figures to vindicate Mr Alderson's well-publicized belief in community policing to which Mr Whitlaw referred and which has earned Mr Alderson a reputation as a "soft" policeman.

Mr Alderson was modest yesterday in his response to reports that Mr Whitlaw had told a meeting of Conservative back-benchers on the law-and-order issue that he was fed up hearing about community policing and that policemen "ought to be able to do it at the same time as catching criminals".

Before the verdicts next month, Mr Alderson will present his final annual report containing the crime figures which his supporters believe will demonstrate that far from being incompatible, community policing enhances a force's ability to tackle crime.

In a statement issued yesterday Mr Alderson, re-

Cabinet consideration for Ulster initiative

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Plans for a political initiative in Ulster will be considered by a powerful Cabinet committee tomorrow before going to full Cabinet and being announced next month.

Despite growing opposition to the proposals as so far revealed, Mr James Haughey, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is determined to press ahead with his attempt to introduce legislation leading to elections for an assembly in October.

Mr Prior is not underestimating the opposition both within the province and among his own back benchers but believes that the momentum that has developed since he arrived in Ulster must continue. He will have further meetings with the main political parties before his package is unveiled and it is after that that the mainly Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party will decide whether it will take part in elections for an assembly.

The Secretary of State said he hoped no party would boycott the election.

Letters, Page 11

BLACKS MAY SUE POLICE ON CRIMES

By a Staff Reporter

A black organization is threatening to refer the Metropolitan Police to the Attorney General for possible legal action because it gave the colour of offenders in crime figures released earlier this month. The West Indian Standing Conference is asking the Commission for Racial Equality to refer the matter to Sir Michael Havers, QC and says if the CRE fails to act it will do so.

Mr Joseph Hunt, the conference general secretary said yesterday that they wanted the Attorney General to approve a prosecution under the Public Order Act on the ground that the police had incited people to racial hatred.

Section 5 says that a person commits an offence if he publishes or distributes written matter which is threatening, abusive or insulting.

Business is brisk for London taximen

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

London's taxi drivers were doing a brisk trade yesterday, the second day of doubled fares on buses and Underground trains.

Business should have been slack because of the spring weather that enveloped the capital. But it was well up to last week's levels and drivers are expecting even better things as the implications of the new high fares sink in.

"We are back to the position where three or four people can jump into a cab for less than it will usually cost them by Tube", a drivers' spokesman said yesterday.

Meanwhile all was calm on the buses and Underground with no disturbances by "Wot's pay" campaigners and passengers apparently accepting the new fares.

Traffic was noticeably down by between a fifth and a tenth, with short-distance travellers particularly staying off the buses; a marked shift in London's travel patterns is apparently under way.

Daily journeys in the capital up to last weekend were broadly as follows: Foot and bicycle (journeys of more than 100 yards) 12 million; car and motor cycle (drivers and passengers) 10 million; Bus four million; Underground two million; railway 1½ million; taxi half million.

As a result of higher fares, bus journeys are expected to decrease by about 800,000 or a fifth, and Tube journeys by 200,000 or tenth, and those million journeys are expected to be redistributed as follows: To foot and bicycle 400,000; to car and motor cycle 200,000; trip cancelled 200,000; to railway 100,000; to taxi 100,000.

A report on road pricing as a means of keeping traffic on the lower free end of the scale is to be published by the Greater London Council this week.

Mr David Wetzel, chairman of the GLC transport committee, emphasized that the council does not support road pricing any more than its predecessor — it prefers low public transport fares. The system requires fixed payments for entering the central area on a weekly or monthly basis.

Butcher in horse flesh case jailed

From Our Correspondent, Bradford

A wholesale butcher was jailed for six months and fined £7,500 and costs of £4,350 were imposed by magistrates at Bingley, West Yorkshire, yesterday when five men and a meat firm were convicted after an eight-day trial concerning a total of 83 offences involving knacker meat and horse flesh.

The magistrates were told that unfit meat which should have gone to a pet food factory went to a firm of wholesale butchers.

After the case, Mr Fred Binley, principal environmental health officer for Bradford, said: "It is high time that the law was updated. Derek Frank Carnan of Lee Lane, Cottingham, Bingley, West Yorkshire, who was convicted of 10 offences, was fined £750, suspended for six months, and fined £750, suspended for six months, and given a six-month prison sentence, suspended for two years. He was convicted of nine offences."

Ramsay Timmins of Stainburn Road, Stainburn, Workington, Cumbria, who was convicted of 18 offences, was fined £1,560, suspended for two years, and given a six-month prison sentence, suspended for two years.

His sons, Stephen Timmins of High Harrington, Workington, and David Timmins of Farm Cottages, Distington, near Workington, were each fined £1,780. They were also convicted of 18 offences each.

All five men and the company were ordered to pay £750 costs each.

Mentmore painting of the Armada makes £11,880

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A brightly coloured gouache of the Spanish Armada, with the burning of the boats at Calais in the background, sailed through Christie's yesterday securing a bid of £11,880 (estimate, £3,000 to £10,000) from Spink's. It is ascribed by Christie's to the Flemish school and dated around 1610, some 20 years after the event depicted.

It was sent for sale by Eva, Countess of Rosebery, with four other gouaches from the celebrated collection formed by Baron Meyer de Rothschild for Mentmore. The group also included an outstandingly attractive view of an imaginary Mediterranean seaport by Johann Wilhelm Baur, dated to the 1640s, which sold to D. Tunick, from New York, at £7,020 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000).

The drawings sale included a Parmigianino study of a youth at £11,880 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000) which had belonged successively to Sir Peter Lely and Sir Joshua Reynolds. It came to Christie's from a private source, still in the old Sotheby's wrapper from an auction in 1866 when it sold for 11 shillings.

There was an unexpected casualty, a Rembrandt brown ink drawing of "Moses and the Burning Bush" unsold at £30,000 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000). The faded condition of the drawing appears to have put off bidders. That was the main contributor to the 18 per cent of the total left unsold.

At Christie's South Kensington The Royal Scottish Museum spent £1,600 (estimate £500 to £2,000) on the robes of a Knight of the Bath worn by Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Goves at his installation in 1803. The set is unusually complete, including his boots and a plumed "bonnet" as well as a 1787 edition of the Statutes.

Science report

Oil flow may give pipes the 'bends'

By the Staff of "Nature"

When is a pipeline bent more readily by a small rather than a larger external force? When is it carrying a sufficiently fast-flowing stream of oil. This is the paradoxical prediction of an investigation of pipeline systems carrying oil that has been carried out by J. M. T. Thompson of the Department of Civil Engineering at University College, London. Dr Thompson makes the obvious point that the prediction, which has been confirmed by experiment, has a potentially important bearing on the stability of submarine pipeline structures in the North Sea.

This paradoxical behaviour of mechanical systems are more readily distorted by large than by small external forces. But a pipe carrying a sufficiently fast flow of liquid will exhibit, on Dr Thompson's prediction, the opposite behaviour, called "negative stiffness". A bent pipe will tend to be straightened by the application of even a small force that would be expected to have the opposite effect. A larger "bent" force will tend further to straighten the bent pipe.

The account of this curious behaviour now published says that it is possible to demonstrate the predicted paradoxical behaviour by means of a flexible hosepipe hanging freely and carrying a sufficiently fast flow of water. In such a case, the deflecting force might be supplied by means of a string attached more or less horizontally to the lower free end of the hosepipe and connected over a pulley to a freely hanging scale-pan to which weights might be added. The prediction is that the addition of larger weights to the free scale-pan would tend further to straighten the pipe.

The explanation for this surprising phenomenon depends critically on the speed with which liquid is flowing through the pipe. When the flow is slow, the behaviour of the pipe will be that predicted by commonsense, with small external forces producing small deflections and larger forces producing larger deflections. But if the speed of the flow is great enough, this behaviour will be reversed.

The underlying reason is that the flow of liquid around bends in the pipe generates centrifugal forces on the walls of the pipe hose. The net effect of the forces, other things being equal, is to tend to compress the pipe. Simple calculations, confirmed by experiment, suggest that the stiffness of a flexible system will be determined by the square of the velocity of the liquid flowing through it, and that there will be some critical velocity above which the phenomenon of negative stiffness appears.

These predictions obviously have bearing on the calculation of the properties of pipes carrying flowing oil, as in the North Sea, but do not of themselves imply that these structures would be unstable. But it does appear that if the velocity of the flow is greater than the critical velocity at which the negative stiffness appears, flexible pipeline systems are liable to flutter, as with the loose ends of a garden hosepipe when the flow of water is fast enough, with potentially disastrous results. What large amounts of oil are involved.

Source: *Nature*, (March 11, Vol 295, p. 135) 1982.

© Nature-Times News Service, 1982.

CORRECTION

Mr James Sillars was wrongly described as the Social Democratic Party vice-chairman in Hillhead report yesterday. He is vice-chairman of the Scottish National Party.

Overseas selling prices
Belgium £ 25; Canada \$ 25; France \$ 25; Germany \$ 25; Italy \$ 25; Japan \$ 25; Korea \$ 25; Spain \$ 25; Sweden \$ 25; Switzerland \$ 25; USA \$ 25; UK £ 25; West Germany \$ 25; Yugoslavia \$ 25.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE

MADE STREET LONDON E14 6SA

Last year, 600 terminally ill men and women lived their final days with dignity and freedom from pain. This year we are offering a special care hospice for the terminally ill.

In the months to come, the hospice will be open to all who are suffering from a terminal illness. No gift is too small to provide immediate comfort. All will be gratefully acknowledged.

Respected Mother

Discover Africa visit Cameroon

CAMEROON — Africa in one country with its landscapes and animal life.

The jungle, the bush, deserts, burnt mountains, the savanna, beaches and coconut palms — you will find it all.

In CAMEROON the future is bright.

Investors appreciate the stability provided by the prevailing policy of common sense.

You will discover a promising new market, enterprising Africans, a rapidly developing infrastructure, an efficient banking system and a variety of natural resources.

DIRECT FLIGHT LONDON - DOUALA

Departure from London every Friday at 11.00a.m.

Gatwick Airport

CAMEROON AIRLINES

RESERVATIONS: 158 NEW BOND STREET. Tel. 01-499 9511 and all travel agents



Callaghan warning on South Georgia

DIPLOMACY

It would be gross dereliction of duty for the Government to persist in withdrawing HMS Endurance from the South Atlantic, Mr James Callaghan, former Prime Minister, said during exchanges on the Argentine landing in South Georgia. Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said that the Government was making arrangements to ensure the early departure of the 10 to 15 Argentine men left at Leith Harbour after the landing.

Mr Luce said that recent actions had not created a helpful atmosphere and it was not sensible in that climate to discuss further progress on the Falkland Islands with the Argentine. The ship which had transported the Argentine party was a naval transport ship.

In his statement, Mr Luce said: We were informed on March 20 by the Commander of the British Antarctic Survey Base at Grytviken on South Georgia that a party of Argentines had made a landing at Leith Harbour near by.

The base commander informed the Argentine party that their presence was illegal as they had not obtained his prior authority for the landing.

We immediately took the matter up with the Argentine authorities in Buenos Aires and the Argentine Embassy in London and, following our approach, the ship and most of the personnel left on March 21. However, the base commander has reported that a small number of men and some equipment remain. We are therefore making arrangements to ensure their early departure.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Leeds, East, Lab), said that Mr Luce did not refer to the Argentine party planting the Argentine flag on the island?

After his talks with Argentine representatives in New York recently the Argentine

government said that unless it got a satisfactory agreement it would take unilateral action. Has he any evidence that the recent action was in fulfilment of that threat?

Mr Luce: For a short period the Argentine flag was planted. It has been removed.

On the New York talks, the atmosphere was in a good spirit and was not about the substance of the issue but about how we can adopt procedures to discuss the dispute in the longer term.

Since then, I regret that some action has been taken which has not created a helpful atmosphere. In that climate it is not sensible to discuss making further progress.

It is important that, if we wish progress, we should not do it against a background of threats and provocation.

Mr Healey: Is there any evidence that this action by Argentine citizens took place with the support or knowledge of the Argentine Government?

Mr Luce: The Argentine Government claimed that it did not know of the action, which was taken by a commercial company. But the House will need to know that the ship which transported the party there, a large vessel, is a naval transport ship.

Sir Bernard Braine (South Essex, Con): While it is important to take steps to correct it, it is important to maintain the islanders' morale. It is pointless to go on asserting that the islands will remain British as long as the inhabitants wish to remain there while withdrawing signs of tangible support like the survey vessel. Will the Government give tangible support to the islanders in this time of some anxiety?

Mr Luce: This Government is committed to support and defend the islands. It is not a question of the best of its abilities. Mr Alan Beith (Berwick upon Tweed, Lib): That is not the impression the Foreign Office gives. It is not clear that this escapee have been encouraged by the British Government's stance over the leaseback problem?

Will Mr Luce make clear that

self-determination for the islanders will be a cornerstone of the Government's policy and that we will stand by it?

Mr Luce: Yes. There will be no question of any changes on the islands without the islanders' consent. Their wishes are paramount. Equally, we would not do anything without the consent of the House.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South East, Lab): Mr Luce was warned that as soon as the news of the withdrawal became known to the Argentine sort of escapee would be likely.

Mr Nicholas Winterbottom (Macclesfield, Con): The incidents of the last few days are tantamount to an invasion of an independent country whether or not the personnel were sponsored by a commercial company or not. Will Mr Luce ensure that HMS Endurance or a similar vessel remains on station in those parts?

Mr Luce: It is not for me to answer specifically for the Secretary of State for Defence about the deployment of forces.

Mr Healey: The Government has put itself in a situation where it has decided to withdraw HMS Endurance. The only option open to it is to ask the Australian government to allow HMS Invincible to spend time around the Falkland Islands on its way to serve in the Royal Australian Navy. (Laughter.)

Mr Luce: The position about our responsibility to the islands is as I have stated.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, Con): What exactly is "tangible support" in South Georgia and the Falkland Islands?

Mr Luce: We will take and are taking firm action to deal with the present situation. HMS Endurance is there now.

Mr Eric Ogden (Liverpool, West Derby, SDP): Is he saying that a party of 50 or 60 Argentine Steptoes on a contract paid for and undertaken from Edinburgh and Buenos Aires in an operation organised and controlled from Edinburgh and Buenos Aires



Ogden: Argentine steptoes.



Healey: Send Invincible.

were able to land on British territory without the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the British Government, the Falkland Islands Government, the British Embassy in Buenos Aires or the British authorities in South Georgia being aware of that? Is that prepared?

Mr Luce: Although the details of the deployment of forces are the Secretary of State for Defence it would not be wrong to say that there is a garrison of British marines on the Falkland Islands as well as HMS Endurance.

Mr John Blackburn (Dudley, West Con): Would he make a covenant with this House and this nation that the question of the sovereignty of these islands is not an agenda item for discussion with any foreign power?

Mr Luce: I do not know whether it would be right for me to make a covenant with anybody. We are at a point where we have British sovereignty over the Falkland Islands. It is equally certain that the Argentines claim sovereignty over the islands. This is a dispute. It would be sensible for all the parties if they were to resolve this dispute in a sensible and peaceful fashion. We cannot do that against a background of threats.

'Healey wanted bad news'

PM's QUESTIONS

The Government believed in covering the majority of its expenditure by taxation and insurance contributions and not, as the last Government did, by a great deal of borrowing. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) began the exchanges by asking if the Prime Minister would read the Treasury reply to a parliamentary question on the tax effects of the Budget on the average family. He invited her to confirm that successive budgets had resulted in size out of every 10 families in Britain paying substantially more taxes now than they did in 1979.

Does that not give the lie (He went on) to every promise she and her friends made at the last election? (Labour cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: This Government believes in covering the majority of its expenditure by taxation and insurance contributions and not, as the last Government did, by a great deal of borrowing. (Conservative cheers.) If he wishes to have both lower taxation and lower national insurance contributions he must show precisely where he would cut expenditure, and in particular, if he wishes to have lower national insurance contributions, where he would cut pensions and other benefits.

Mr Denis Healey, Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Leeds, East, Lab): May I thank her for allowing the Treasury to admit

that it has already broken the major promise in which she won the last election? (Labour cheers.) Mrs Thatcher: I did not hear all the question, but at least my administration has not got the nation bankrupt as he did.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, Lib): Referring to the rising crime figures, Mrs Thatcher should study the speech made in Glasgow, Billhead, by her predecessor, Mr Edward Heath when he pointed out that if young people are hanging around the streets, what can we expect, but an increase in crime. Does she agree that this is part of the breakdown of society under the stress of unemployment?

Mrs Thatcher: It is much too simplistic a reply to say there are increased crimes because there are increases in unemployment. Certainly there is more crime today. If his argument is right, the figures would have been at their highest in the 1930s when the proportion of the population unemployed was much higher than today.

There has been a considerable increase in crime throughout a period of increasing prosperity not only in this country, but others as well.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30). Questions: Scotland; Lord Advocate; CAP proposals for 1982-83. Lords (2.30). Debate on law and order.

on which she won the last election? (Labour cheers.) Mrs Thatcher: I did not hear all the question, but at least my administration has not got the nation bankrupt as he did.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, Lib): Referring to the rising crime figures, Mrs Thatcher should study the speech made in Glasgow, Billhead, by her predecessor, Mr Edward Heath when he pointed out that if young people are hanging around the streets, what can we expect, but an increase in crime. Does she agree that this is part of the breakdown of society under the stress of unemployment?

Mrs Thatcher: It is much too simplistic a reply to say there are increased crimes because there are increases in unemployment. Certainly there is more crime today. If his argument is right, the figures would have been at their highest in the 1930s when the proportion of the population unemployed was much higher than today.

There has been a considerable increase in crime throughout a period of increasing prosperity not only in this country, but others as well.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30). Questions: Scotland; Lord Advocate; CAP proposals for 1982-83. Lords (2.30). Debate on law and order.

New needs formula endorsed by MPs

SOCIAL SECURITY

The needs allowance formula applied under the Social Security Act 1975 has been endorsed by the House of Commons. Mr Bryan John, chief Opposition spokesman on social security, said when the report stage of the Bill was resumed.

Mr John (Pontypool, Lab) moved a new clause to provide that the needs allowance should not be less than the sum of the supplementary benefit long-term scale rate, 40 per cent of the national average council house rent, the national average domestic rate and the national average domestic water and sewerage charges. The clause was agreed by a majority of 197 to 100.

The Government's intention, Mr John said, was to ensure that the needs allowance would be at least equal to the sum of the supplementary benefit long-term scale rate, 40 per cent of the national average council house rent, the national average domestic rate and the national average domestic water and sewerage charges. The clause was agreed by a majority of 197 to 100.

The Government's intention, Mr John said, was to ensure that the needs allowance would be at least equal to the sum of the supplementary benefit long-term scale rate, 40 per cent of the national average council house rent, the national average domestic rate and the national average domestic water and sewerage charges. The clause was agreed by a majority of 197 to 100.

be available if the Government wanted to use it.

It was monstrous that the Government was proposing a change in the law while being so concerned about the quality of the new needs formula. There would be no losers, it was the Government's job to make sure there would be none.

Mr Christopher Patten (Bath, Con) said that, if later in the year, it proved that the Treasury had overestimated the likely increase in housing costs as a result of the benefit rates either at the end of the year or retrospectively next year.

He would like an assurance that the Government was prepared to recognize the importance of constructing a new price index for poorer families. An index for the poorer members of the community was long overdue and it would be logical and rational to move in that direction.

Mr Reginald Race (Haringey, Wood Green, Lab) said the Government should be prepared to recognize the importance of constructing a new price index for poorer families. An index for the poorer members of the community was long overdue and it would be logical and rational to move in that direction.

Mr Reginald Race (Haringey, Wood Green, Lab) said the Government should be prepared to recognize the importance of constructing a new price index for poorer families. An index for the poorer members of the community was long overdue and it would be logical and rational to move in that direction.



In quiet comfort on new Inter-City Sleepers

Starting in 1982 new Inter-City high-speed sleepers will operate on the London/Aberdeen route.

These new modern sleepers have every comfort you could wish for, wall to wall carpeting, shaver points, lots of storage space, fitted basin with constant hot water and room service throughout the night. Special innovations to the sleeper carriages and compartments give you a quieter and smoother ride. Add to this finger-tip controlled air-conditioning and heating and you really have the best in comfort. It doesn't matter whether it's business or pleasure, you arrive totally refreshed ready for an early start.

Welcome to the high-speed Hotel.

This is the age of the train

Protests at naval training cuts

DEFENCE

Considerations are to be initiated with trade unions and, where appropriate, local authorities and other interested bodies about the proposed closure of seven Royal Dockyard establishments, Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said in a written reply.

The establishments and the dates by which they are to close are: HMS Fishguard, Torpoint, Cornwall, 1983; HMS Phoenix, Portsmouth, 1984; HMS Exeter, Portsmouth, 1985; HMS Vernon, Portsmouth, 1986; and Fraser Gunners, Portsmouth, 1986.

Mr Blaker said that the closure of HMS Fishguard would close by 1983 as part of the naval base at Chatham, the closure of which had already been announced. In addition, the function of HMS Caledonia at Rosyth will change by 1983 from that of a training establishment to that of a fleet accommodation centre. About 600 new jobs would be created at Rosyth as a result of the expansion of the dockyard.

Mr Blaker also pointed out in the reply that the policy described in the Government's White Paper *The United Kingdom Defence Programme* of reducing peacetime establishments and undertaking more training effort had the aim of releasing maximum resources for front line combat capability.

Earlier, during questions to the Ministry of Defence MPs, Mr Blaker had been asked by Sir Henry Leach, Chief of Naval Staff, and complained that because the information was being given in a written answer they could not question him.

The subject was first raised by Mr Robert Mitchell (Southampton, Ipswich, SDP) who said that the closure of Portsmouth Dockyard, were having damaging effects on employment prospects in south Hampshire. It was a high price to pay for Trident.

Mr Geoffrey Patten (Bath, Con) said that the Government was not accepting the contention that this is part of the price of Trident. We are redefining our efforts to support Vicer-Thornycroft to obtain export orders.

Mr Peter Viggers (Gosport, Con) said that the Minister was in a position to announce the result of the review of training and the establishments.

Mr Patten: The Minister of State for the Armed Forces (Mr Peter Blaker) is today answering in a written question that it is proposed, subject to normal consultation procedures, to close certain naval shore establishments.

Phoenix, Excellent, Vernon, and Fraser Gunners, Portsmouth, and HMS Fishguard, Torpoint. MPs whose constituencies are affected were being kept informed.

Mr Dennis Davies (Opposition spokesman on defence (Llanelli, Lab): Before the Government dismantles the Royal Navy even further (Conservative protests), the Secretary of State must have the courage to make a statement. It affects many jobs. The Government must rethink its strategy. The whole defence strategy is being redefined. The Government was a war in Europe, it would last only a few days. But that war, should it come, would be a war of attrition and the navy would be the last to be cut. The Government is hiding behind the Official Secrets Act. Will the Government come from behind that cloak and tell us what the nation know exactly what is going on with chemical weapons?

Mr Patten: He persists in this delusion about this cloak of deceit. I have to repeat there has been no such repeat nor are we expecting one.

should be allowed on the written answer which Mr Patten had touched upon.

The statement that MPs whose constituencies were affected would be kept in touch meant that there would be written statements of intentions which did not allow MPs freedom to question Ministers on behalf of constituents.

During a later question on the cost of Trident, Mr Lord Evans (Aberdeen, Lab) asked if the Government right to pay about £8,000 to £10,000, which would come from the naval estimates of the future, was the reason a written answer was to be made because they were talking about a cutback in conventional weapons?

Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces: The announcement later today is nothing to do with Trident. (Labour protests.) The defence review last year took place to deal with the problems of that time when Trident was costing practically nothing.

On the naval estimates, we have a defence budget, we budget for defence priorities. We have a separate programme for Trident. The defence review last year took place to deal with the problems of that time when Trident was costing practically nothing.

On the naval estimates, we have a defence budget, we budget for defence priorities. We have a separate programme for Trident. The defence review last year took place to deal with the problems of that time when Trident was costing practically nothing.

Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, Con): If this country wishes to make a store or deploy chemical weapons it is matter for the Government and the House to debate and discuss. But the fact that any other power might wish to store them here is not of the slightest interest of relevance.

There is also a clear qualitative distinction with the agreement that allows the United States to store nuclear weapons on this country and this cannot be invoked to cover similar facilities for chemical weapons.

Mr Patten: I would agree with the thrust of his general argument. It is the duty of the British Government to be aware of the changing nature of the threat and to be aware of the fact that the Soviet Union have 60,000 troops specially trained and designated for chemical warfare and they have huge supplies of chemical agents that they have deployed forward.

Mr Dennis Davies (Opposition spokesman on defence (Llanelli, Lab): Why not give an assurance that the British Government will not allow the stock piling of American chemical weapons in this United Kingdom? There has been enough proliferation of nuclear weapons in Europe already without the further proliferation of chemical weapons.

Mr Patten: I have already answered that question.

Mr Kenneth Warren (Hastings, Con): Would he confirm that not only is the Soviet army equipped with chemical weapons but they are a front line capability of the Warsaw Pact?

Mr Patten: We know from observations of exercises that the Soviet army is equipped with nuclear, chemical and biological conditions and these have been supplied to satellite countries of the Soviet Union.

Balance in training scheme

If young people only from the privileged areas were taken on the adventure training scheme, which is to be run under the auspices of the armed forces, it would not be as useful as a balanced scheme. Mr Geoffrey Patten, Under-Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, said during questions.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, Con) asked whether the way the scheme is being run, because it looked as if priority was given to public school cadet forces rather than the deprived youngsters, was being introduced? This was a deviation from what was announced as its original intention.

Mr Patten: The original scheme was that cadet forces would be given priority. I have given instructions that the combined cadet forces which already have similar training and other facilities, shall not be given that priority. The priority will be for the army, air and navy cadets.

Mr Kevin McNamara (Opposition spokesman on Central, Lab): What priority is he going to give to children and young people from underprivileged backgrounds? Can he undertake that they will not be put to any expense or be expected to meet any charges for equipment, uniforms, running shoes, football boots, games equipment and things of that nature?

Mr Patten: We have said that the scheme will be free and we will provide travel, food and clothing. As for balance, if we were to take only young people from underprivileged areas the scheme would not be as useful as a more balanced scheme. There will be some form of reasonable balance between the underprivileged and those from better-off areas.

No US request on chemical weapons

The United States Government had no request for permission to store chemical weapons on the United Kingdom and no such request was expected Mr Geoffrey Patten, Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said during questions.

Mr Frank Haynes (Ashfield, Lab) who had raised the question said the answer was not acceptable. Many of us believe (he said) that the Government is hiding behind the Official Secrets Act. Will the Government come from behind that cloak and tell us what the nation know exactly what is going on with chemical weapons?

Mr Patten: He persists in this delusion about this cloak of deceit. I have to repeat there has been no such repeat nor are we expecting one.

Anxieties remain over property of Indians

CANADA BILL

A puzzling omission from the schedule to the Canada Bill which sets out the Canadian charter of rights and freedoms was an explicit reference to the right of the people not to be deprived of their property, Lord Stewart of Fulham, an Opposition spokesman, said in the House of Lords during the committee stage of the bill which patriates the Canadian constitution.

He said during a debate on the schedule, that he would have expected the Bill to contain an explicit provision that the people, whether of the aboriginal people or otherwise, could not have their land taken away from them without a good reason, after legal process and with proper compensation.

Lord Stewart, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said he could not help on this. It was not a matter for the British Government.

Lord Stewart of Fulham said he was sure that the Canadian people would pass the Bill "holding its nose". He had not suggested they should pass it holding their nose (Labour cheers). They did not want to wreck the Bill.

Lord Stewart of Fulham said there was no question of Labour peers trying to prevent the passage of the Bill. Mr Trudeau said that the British Parliament would pass the Bill "holding its nose". He had not suggested they should pass it holding their nose (Labour cheers). They did not want to wreck the Bill.

Lord Stewart of Fulham said there was no question of Labour peers trying to prevent the passage of the Bill. Mr Trudeau said that the British Parliament would pass the Bill "holding its nose". He had not suggested they should pass it holding their nose (Labour cheers). They did not want to wreck the Bill.

Lord Somers (Ind) said the Bill had been prepared and rushed through Parliament before any consultation with the Indians. It was a shocking example of insincerity and was likely to lead to serious trouble in Canada.

Lord Shindler said the House could not object to Canada having complete sovereignty over her own affairs. Lord Stewart of Fulham was going a little too far in saying the Bill had been accepted on second reading and the matter should be left there.

Lord Home of the Hirsel (C) said Lord Stewart of Fulham wanted to ignore the Canadian people two principles: first, that the ownership of property should not be changed without the due process of the law, and second, that there should be proper compensation if property was taken over.

All my life (he said) I have been trying to impress those principles on the Socialist Party. I am sure that they have been converted (Laughter) But I hope we shall not feel that Parliament should lecture the people of Canada in those principles who, I think, understand them as well as we. (Conservative cheers.)

Lord Stewart of Fulham said there was no question of Labour peers trying to prevent the passage of the Bill. Mr Trudeau said that the British Parliament would pass the Bill "holding its nose". He had not suggested they should pass it holding their nose (Labour cheers). They did not want to wreck the Bill.

Lord Stewart of Fulham said there was no question of Labour peers trying to prevent the passage of the Bill. Mr Trudeau said that the British Parliament would pass the Bill "holding its nose". He had not suggested they should pass it holding their nose (Labour cheers). They did not want to wreck the Bill.

Russians in red to Camden

The Government is carefully considering what action it can take on rate arrears amounting to nearly £250,000 owed to the Camden Borough Council in respect of the Soviet Trade Delegation's premises in that borough. Lord Stewart of Fulham, Secretary of State at the Foreign Office said during questions.

He told Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C), who had asked for action to ensure the borough was paid with appropriate interest, that the collection of rates was primarily a matter between the rating authority and the occupier, but the Government had held discussions with Camden Council and the Soviet authorities over the years in an attempt to assist in resolving this long-standing problem and its efforts would continue.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter: In the view of the Foreign Office, are these premises covered by diplomatic privilege? If they are not is there anything to prevent Camden Council treating this defaulting ratepayer as they would treat any other defaulting ratepayer—levy a distress warrant?

Lord Trefgarne: The question of whether or not these premises enjoy immunities from payment of rates is at the heart of this problem.

Camden Council have asked for a certificate from the Foreign Office in connection with this point. We are now carefully considering how to respond. Lord Stewart of Fulham (Lab), the former Foreign Secretary, said that in the eighteenth century somebody served a writ on the Russian ambassador to recover a debt due to him and Parliament was so incensed with this proceeding they hurriedly interpreted the Act making the serving of a writ on an ambassador an offence punishable with corporal punishment. (Laughter.) Lord Trefgarne: Quite right too.

Does Your Memory Fail You?

To Memory and Concentration Studies, Dept. TSM9, PREPPOST 38, London W10.

Please send me your free Memory Book.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

No stamp needed in U.K.

This is the age of the train

Merger means new university for Ulster

By Diana Gaddes, Education Correspondent

ing cuts

Also Clark (Plymouth), take a store or display government and the Home that any other power might in store there is not of e. is also a clear qualitative tions with the agreement follows the United States to ry and this cannot be ed to cover similar facilities chemical weapons.

er: I would agree with the ie duty of the British ing nature of the threat and Union have 60,000 troops ally trained and equipped chemical warfare and they huge supplies of chemical and they have deployed

erzil Davies an Opposition sman on defence (Labour), the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Pattie: I have already ken that question. Kenneth Warren (Hastings) would be content that the is the Soviet army equippe chemical weapons has a front line capability of

Pattie: We know from rations of exercises that are carried out in ear, chemical and biological itions and these have been in satellite countries of Soviet Union

balance in raining cheme young people only low level of education were the me which has no com- ayment to the armed forces, would be content that the is the Soviet army equippe chemical weapons has a front line capability of

Robin: Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

Mr. W. H. Hynd (Tine- y, the Secretary of State, the British Government will allow the stock piling of in chemical weapons in enough proliferation of ar weapons in Europe dition without the further eration of chemical we-

The New University of Ulster at Coleraine and the Ulster Polytechnic are to merge to form a multi-site university, with a strong emphasis on vocational and continuing education, the Government announced yesterday.

The Chilver report on higher education in Northern Ireland, which was also published yesterday, advised against a merger on grounds that it would be unlikely to achieve significant economies, would increase the dominance of the Belfast institutions, and would give rise to disruptive administrative difficulties.

Mr. Nicholas Scott, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, said at a press conference in London yesterday that there was no question of Coleraine University being closed or downgraded. The Government had simply decided to join two institutions.

The higher education review group for Northern Ireland, chaired by Sir Henry Chilver, which was set up by the Government more than three years ago, recommended that Coleraine University should continue as an independent, smaller, institution with emphasis on non-traditional degree courses.

Mr. Scott said that the Government shared the review group's desire to keep a

higher education base outside Belfast. (The only other Northern Ireland university, Queen's, and the only polytechnic, are both in Belfast.) But it did not believe that the group's recommendations for Coleraine University's future work would give it a worthwhile role.

When Coleraine University was opened in 1968, it was intended that the student body would reach 5,000-6,000 by 1980. The present full-time enrolment is only 1,800.

The A level qualifications of entrants to the Ulster Polytechnic are about the same as those for Coleraine, but the polytechnic, which is described in the Chilver Report as "a young institution which has displayed commendable energy and initiative", is considered successful.

Mr. Scott said that although the Government's plans were intended to provide a blueprint for the future of higher education in Northern Ireland, the details still had to be worked out. He did not expect the new university to come into being before 1984/85.

The Future of Higher Education in Northern Ireland. Report of the higher education review group. (Belfast: Stationery Office, 1982). Higher education in Northern Ireland: the future structure. A Government statement. (Department of Education, Northern Ireland, Belfast: Stationery Office, 1982).

Plans to develop the commercial potential of the canal and river systems in Yorkshire and Humberside with the long-term objective of a water-borne link with the continental waterways are being implemented by the British Waterways Board.

The impetus for the initiative is contained in the 1981 Transport Act, which, for the first time, brings commercial waterways in line with the railways for government grants.

Under the 1968 Transport Act, railway customers could receive direct grants from the Government of up to 50 per cent of the cost of rolling stock, equipment, and handling, provided they could show they could remove the carriage of goods from the road and that environmental benefits would accrue. Under the 1981 Act, using the same criteria, the same government aid is now available to canal users for barges, handling equipment and warehousing.

Mr. William Scott, the board's freight manager, north, said last night: "This is the sort of kick we have been waiting for. The Act is just getting under way and we have had one or two applications for aid."

The new deal has already earned the support of three district councils in West Yorkshire, Leeds, Wakefield and Kirklees.

The councils are expected today to put a seal of approval on a campaign to promote the opportunities offered by the waterways to industry, including earmarking prime industrial sites near waterways, helping with access to waterway-based development and in supporting applications for grants under the new Act.

In the long-term, the board hopes to revive the BACAT (barge aboard catamaran) operation which was abandoned after industrial action by Hull dockers about eight years ago. The board's barges being sent to the Humber ports, floated on board a specially constructed catamaran "mother" ship, taken across to Rotterdam and loaded to navigate the European waterways.

Top quality farmland was designated by the British Airports Authority for expansion at Stansted Airport, a public inquiry into proposed development was told yesterday.

The land was well farmed and largely free from significant urbanization, planning and environmental constraints and those factors were reflected in its high output. Most of it was within the grade two classification of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Dr Ainsley Ede, an agricultural consultant giving evidence for the National Farmers' union, said.

The long-term value of high quality agricultural land to the nation could not be measured solely in terms of the capitalized value of its output, the inquiry was told.

Dr Ede said that planning acknowledged as one of its objectives the protection of high quality farmland as a national resource. Its development was not permitted merely because its value for industrial or commercial use exceeded its agricultural value.

Tenants lose move to buy council home

By David Nicholson-Lord

A couple's attempt to secure their own Act of Parliament giving them the right to buy their council house has failed because an estimated 50,000 tenants are in the same position.

Mr and Mrs David Berry, of Catford, south London, submitted a personal Bill seeking to remove an acknowledged anomaly of the Housing Act, 1980, which denies to leasehold, as opposed to freehold tenants the right to buy. The Prime Minister last month attached high priority to remedying the exclusion.

But Mr and Mrs Berry have now been told that the 15-page David and Anne Berry Bill is not technically personal because it affects others, in this case Lewisham Council which refuses to sell, and because their position is not unusual.

Mr Berry, who bought the freehold of the house and is thus the council's landlord, described the decision, by the Lords' chairman of committees and Commons' chairman of Ways and Means, as frustrating and grossly unfair.

She added: "From the beginning we have been turned down by people in authority and now it has happened again. It seems absurd that when Conservative MPs back us up and the Government supports us, everybody else should have the right to buy except us."



Thirst for travel: Chizzy Lizzy, a lamb aged five weeks, at the Children's section in London Zoo, enjoying a meal yesterday. Three weeks ago the lamb was stolen from the zoo and was later found wandering on the Underground tracks at Chiswick, west London. It is believed children were responsible.

Year's wait for 20% of hip operations

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

One in five of those waiting for hip replacement operations has to wait more than a year, a report published today says.

Such operations have the longest waiting time of any surgical procedure undertaken by the National Health Service, and patients wait four times longer on average than for other surgery, a report from the Office of Health Economics says.

Seat belt legislation coming into effect later this year could increase the number of hip operations performed, however, by reducing the demand for surgery from road accidents.

The operation which took off in the late 1960s, can transform a patient's life by relieving pain and increasing mobility. Because the results are so good, demand is high, it is much more readily available in certain parts of the country than others. The median waiting time nationally is five months but it reaches seven months in the West Midlands, Trent and South-western regional health authorities.

The number performed per head of population also varies greatly. In 1978 the rates in Mersey, East Anglia and the Northern region were under half those of Oxford, Wessex and the South-west.

About 18,000 hip replacements were performed on NHS in 1978, the last year for which full data is available, and an estimated 1,000 to 2,000 in the private sector. The report says demand might be levelling off since the backlog of cases which accumulated when it became apparent that the operation was successful is gradually being cleared. About 200,000 Britons are estimated to have undergone the operation, which costs about £1,200.

The Office of Health Economics, research group financed by the drug industry, says that hip replacement is not an area where the NHS has failed because demand is gradually being met and because the rate per head of population is as good as in the United States. But it says that rates could improve if better management techniques were used to ensure that operating theatres were used more intensively. It estimates that many operating theatres are used for only 37 weeks a year.

It also recommends that a coding system be introduced to denote how badly a patient needs the operation so priorities can be worked out. The present system is too crude, with usually just two categories recorded: urgent and non-urgent.

The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council yesterday deplored the fact that patients were waiting on average four times longer for hip replacements than for other operations and that "after many years this unsatisfactory and painful state of affairs still persists."

Hip replacement and the NHS, by William Laing and David Taylor (Office of Health Economics, 12 Whitehall, London SW1; £1).

Move to link waterways with Europe

From Ronald Kershaw, Leeds

Plans to develop the commercial potential of the canal and river systems in Yorkshire and Humberside with the long-term objective of a water-borne link with the continental waterways are being implemented by the British Waterways Board.

The impetus for the initiative is contained in the 1981 Transport Act, which, for the first time, brings commercial waterways in line with the railways for government grants.

Under the 1968 Transport Act, railway customers could receive direct grants from the Government of up to 50 per cent of the cost of rolling stock, equipment, and handling, provided they could show they could remove the carriage of goods from the road and that environmental benefits would accrue. Under the 1981 Act, using the same criteria, the same government aid is now available to canal users for barges, handling equipment and warehousing.

Mr. William Scott, the board's freight manager, north, said last night: "This is the sort of kick we have been waiting for. The Act is just getting under way and we have had one or two applications for aid."

The new deal has already earned the support of three district councils in West Yorkshire, Leeds, Wakefield and Kirklees.

The councils are expected today to put a seal of approval on a campaign to promote the opportunities offered by the waterways to industry, including earmarking prime industrial sites near waterways, helping with access to waterway-based development and in supporting applications for grants under the new Act.

In the long-term, the board hopes to revive the BACAT (barge aboard catamaran) operation which was abandoned after industrial action by Hull dockers about eight years ago. The board's barges being sent to the Humber ports, floated on board a specially constructed catamaran "mother" ship, taken across to Rotterdam and loaded to navigate the European waterways.

Top quality farmland was designated by the British Airports Authority for expansion at Stansted Airport, a public inquiry into proposed development was told yesterday.

The land was well farmed and largely free from significant urbanization, planning and environmental constraints and those factors were reflected in its high output. Most of it was within the grade two classification of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Dr Ainsley Ede, an agricultural consultant giving evidence for the National Farmers' union, said.

The long-term value of high quality agricultural land to the nation could not be measured solely in terms of the capitalized value of its output, the inquiry was told.

Dr Ede said that planning acknowledged as one of its objectives the protection of high quality farmland as a national resource. Its development was not permitted merely because its value for industrial or commercial use exceeded its agricultural value.

The inquiry, which entered its 23rd week yesterday, is in the midst of hearing agricultural evidence which could prove a significant influence on the Government's decision whether or not to allow the airport development.

Mr Howard Elliott assistant director in the parliamentary division of the NFU, who finished giving evidence yesterday, told the inquiry last week that the development would be contrary to the objectives of agricultural policy: breach long standing regional and local planning policies to control urban development and protect the countryside; cause an excessive and unnecessary loss of high quality land; cast the shadow of blight and uncertainty over a large number of efficient and highly productive farms; and would generate constraints upon agricultural production in the area.

The national benefits of retaining the land intact as security against possible long-term food requirements outweighed the benefits of a new international airport, he suggested.

New study on turning rail to road

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

A fresh study on converting railways to roads has been sent to Mrs Margaret Thatcher after the strike by the Associated Society of Engineers and Firemen and its disastrous effect on British Rail finances. It has been prepared by the Centre for Policy Studies, a non-party think-tank of which the Prime Minister was joint founder with Sir Keith Joseph in 1974 and of which she is still an active supporter.

It argues that converting Britain's railway network into roads would save the taxpayer an immediate £1,000m a year, 2,500 lives a year, remove "tunnage" from residential areas and provide cheaper and more efficient transport.

The report is also being studied by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, for its possible application to loss-making commuter lines like that from St Marylebone to Aylesbury. Conversion there would not only save several hundred thousand pounds a year in subsidy but would also release a valuable development site.

Mr Angus Dalgleish, transport engineer and author of the study, argued at a press briefing in London yesterday that political opposition to rail closure sprang from ignorance of the benefits. Many men in high places still had model train sets and were unable to see the issues objectively.

Although road carries nine-tenths of passengers and freight, Britain has only 2,500 km of custom-built road compared with 18,000 km of rail. Mr Dalgleish pointed out. The remainder of the road system was a network of paths stretching back centuries. If asphalted over, the railways would make a magnificent road network.

Lord Thomas, chairman of the Centre for Policy Studies, said the centre was not committed to the study's conclusions but regarded it as an important topic for discussion in a new form.

The Truth about Transport, Centre for Policy Studies, 8 Wilfred Street, London SW1E 6PL (£2.50).



If you're delayed, your Avis car will stay up late.

Whether your plane is fogbound in Paris, your high speed train is running late, or your meeting is turning into a marathon, don't worry. We won't.

We'll keep your Avis car for a full fifteen hours before we even think about renting it to someone else.

But whatever time you turn up, if you've reserved a car with Avis, we'll make sure you get one straight away.

If we don't have one in the group you asked for, we'll give you a bigger one for the same price. (Even if we have to go to a competitor to get it.)

To save you even more time and trouble we have the Avis Express Card.

It means you don't have to bother filling in rental forms and paying deposits. You use it like a charge card and we bill you later.

No one knows more than we do how you hate to be delayed.

AVIS

We try harder.



THE VAUXHALL CAVALIER 1600GL HATCHBACK

AVIS SERVICES INCLUDE STANDARD EXECUTIVE AND LUXURY CAR RENTAL, CAR AND TRUCK LEASING, CAR PARKING AND CHAUFFEUR DRIVE. FOR RESERVATIONS IN THE UK OR OVERSEAS RING 01 848 8733 (LONDON AND SOUTH EAST) 031 337 0000 (SCOTLAND EDINBURGH) 041 221 2227 (SCOTLAND GLASGOW) 06 32 44511 (NORTH OF ENGLAND) 03 284 32233 (NORTHERN IRELAND) 021 622 4262 (MIDLANDS AND SOUTH WEST) OR SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

West Bank violence

Peres attacks Begin's occupation policies

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 23

As violent protests and a Palestinian general strike continued throughout the West Bank for the fifth consecutive day, the Government of Mr Menachem Begin tonight faced three Knesset motions of no confidence over its policies in the occupied territories.

The parliamentary challenge reflected growing discontent among many Israelis about the repeatedly used tactic of firing live ammunition into crowds of unarmed Arab demonstrators. This has already killed two teenagers and injured at least 10 others since protests began over the dismissal of the elected council of El-Bireh last Thursday.

The opening speaker, Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the Opposition Labour Party, broadened his attack on the right-wing coalition to include its handling of the evacuation of Jewish settlers from Sinai and the deteriorating state of Israel's relations with the United States.

Replying for the Government, Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, was subjected to noisy heckling from left-wingers. He said that rather than debating false allegations, the Government, deputies should have been discussing Jordan's recent threat to

impose the death penalty on West Bank Arabs who refused to resign from the new village leagues.

Earlier, Mr Peres had been involved in a bitter exchange with Mr Sharon during a heated session of the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee. The opposition leader accused Mr Sharon of labelling all Israeli critics of the Government's hard-line policy as "traitors".

Throughout the day, continuing efforts by the Israeli security forces to break the strike failed to have any noticeable success, and annexed East Jerusalem 17 Arab merchants were arrested for refusing to obey a military order to reopen their shops.

While bewildered groups of foreign tourists looked on, several hundred Israeli soldiers and mounted policemen patrolled the shuttered streets and alleys near the holy places. At one point, a thick column of black smoke billowed from a building which rose high over the walls of the old city as Arab demonstrators set fire to barricades of petrol soaked tyres. Near by, an illegal Palestinian flag was briefly raised.

With tension remaining at a pitch rarely experienced since the occupation in 1967, there were strong indications that further action by the Israelis against the most radical of the allegedly pro-Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) mayors was imminent.



Collapse of a social experiment

Zurich's AJZ, Autonomous Youth Centre, in the Limmatstrasse, was razed to the ground yesterday after its contents, including a handful of squatters, had been removed by police in the early morning (Ian McGregor writes).

Its fate was sealed a week ago

when church and social organizations responsible for its supervision withdrew on the grounds that the premises could no longer serve a constructive purpose and had become a venue for drug pushers and their clients. The municipality, which spent \$225,000 on the building last year, decided

on demolition as the only way to ensure that the centre, once a warehouse, would not again become a focal point for demonstrators with the onset of spring. Similar demolitions have taken place in recent years in other Swiss cities. The site will become a garden.

Sinai solutions 'soon'

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, March 23

Dr Osama El-Baz, President Mubarak's special envoy on a mission to Mr Begin, conferred for two hours in Jerusalem today with the Israeli Prime Minister and forecast an early solution of all outstanding issues. He gave no details.

The most pressing is the disagreement about siting 15 border markers on the frontier. Israeli officials have given warning that it will be impossible to complete the withdrawal from Sinai on

promised to reply in a few days.

He added: "I am quite satisfied that the talks and exchange of messages that all outstanding issues will be solved in the immediate future".

Other controversies believed to have been discussed were Israel's demand that President Mubarak visit Jerusalem during a state visit and that sessions of the Palestinian autonomy negotiations be held in the capital.

Soaring defence costs worry Capitol Hill

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 23

A Pentagon report showing that the United States' 44 largest weapons projects are now expected to cost \$114,500m (about £62,500m) more than was estimated three months ago has brought new congressional criticism of the Reagan Administration's huge planned increase in defence spending.

The new estimate, which is contained in a report which the Pentagon is required by law to submit each quarter, comes when the Senate budget committee is completing its work on the 1983 budget.

Senator Peter Domenici, the committee's chairman, has indicated that while he is in favour of strengthening America's defence, he believes the Administration's \$258,000 defence budget for 1983 is too high. His committee is to call for a 5 per cent increase in defence spending compared with the 18 per cent increase proposed by the Administration.

The soaring costs of military programmes are causing concern among both Republicans and Democrats on

Capitol Hill. "If cost are rising so sharply now, what will they be like over the next few years?" remarked a congressional aide.

The cost of the new weapons systems has risen from \$340,300m to \$454,800m, an increase of 33 per cent since the last Pentagon estimates were released three months ago. The Tomahawk cruise missiles have quadrupled in price to \$12,600m, the cost of the F14 fighter jet has tripled to \$35,800m and of the F15 fighter more than doubled to \$40,600m.

According to the Pentagon, the increases reflect the impact that inflation is having on the defence sector as well as the larger quantities of weapons being ordered as part of its military build-up. Officials say that only a small portion of the increased costs referred to in the now report will be covered by the 1983 budget period.

The Pentagon claims the higher estimates were expected and will not require changes in the President's plans to spend \$1,600,000m on defence between now and 1987.



"Pepper fogging" is the current phrase for American police action in spraying tear gas at strikers, who have blocked the entrance to a precision tool factory in North Kingstown, Rhode Island for the twenty-second week.

Walesa spurns offer to leave

Warsaw, March 23.—The Polish authorities have suggested that Mr Lech Walesa, the interned Solidarity leader, should voluntarily leave Poland with his family, his wife, Danuta said today.

"Of course we refused," she said in a telephone interview from her flat in Gdansk.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said today that he was unaware of a departure offer made specifically to the Walesa family.

The Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu today denied reports that Mr

Stefan Bratkowski, the chairman of the disbanded Journalists' Association, was hiding or on a wanted list. "Bratkowski is neither in hiding nor wanted by anyone," Mr Eugeniusz Gus, an official commentator, affirmed. He accused Western reporters of making a legend out of Mr Bratkowski, a Communist reformer who the situation had been made worse by low supplies of domestic grain. Domestic supplies amounted to only 1,700,000 tonnes so far compared with the 3,600,000 tonnes planned. AP and

paper Dziennik Ludowy reported today. It said that Poland would be able to import only four million tonnes of grain this year compared with seven and a half million tonnes in 1981.

Mr Jerzy Wojciech, the Minister of Agriculture, said in a broadcast today that the situation had been made worse by low supplies of domestic grain. Domestic supplies amounted to only 1,700,000 tonnes so far compared with the 3,600,000 tonnes planned. AP and

Guerrillas threaten Salvador cities

San Salvador, March 23.—Left-wing guerrillas announced plans today to march on El Salvador's cities in an attempt to overthrow the American-backed junta.

The guerrilla radio, Venceremos, said: "Our forces have defeated the enemy in the countryside and now prepare for final victory by marching on the cities".

The guerrillas, who have been fighting security forces backed by extreme right-wing groups for two years, have vowed to wreck next Sunday's Constituent Assembly elections which are seen by Washington as a first step in bringing peace to the country.

In a wave of bombing attacks, guerrillas yesterday damaged or destroyed more than 20 buses in various parts of the capital in an attempt to cripple the transport system on the eve of the polls.

Venceremos called on countries supporting the guerrillas to break off diplomatic and commercial relations with the Salvadoran Government. It said the forthcoming elections were not the solution to the country's difficulties.

The guerrilla radio claimed yesterday that the United States planned to invade El Salvador and called on friendly members of the Organisation of American States (OAS) to stop "this new criminal intent".

There were unconfirmed reports that public transport in various parts of the country has been suspended or severely curtailed because of guerrilla threats to kill drivers. Up to now, the guerrilla tactics have been to order people out of buses

Gandhi warns banks not to lose trust

By Lesley Plimmer

International financial institutions should be isolated from political ideologies or risk losing the trust of the Third World, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, told a City of London luncheon in her honour at the Mansion House yesterday.

It was a clear reference to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, which have tightened their lending policies under the private enterprise philosophy of the Reagan Administration.

India is still smarting over a \$3,000m IMF loan granted last November. The negotiations showed up continuing economic policy divisions between India and the IMF and Washington abstained on the loan question, believing that the terms were not tough enough.

Earlier in the day Mrs Gandhi met Mr Michael Foot, the Labour Party leader, and Mr Denis Healey, his deputy, for private talks which a spokesman described as "very useful and interesting".

Mr Foot and Mrs Gandhi also attended an exhibition at Portland Place dedicated to her father, Jawaharlal Nehru, which includes historic unpublished photographs of the Nehru family.

Throughout the day, police, motor cycle outriders and armed guards accompanied the party, which included Sonia, wife of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister's son and heir apparent.

India's policy of "economic self-reliance means not diminishing but augmenting cooperation", but because of

US farmers press for grain sales to Russia

From Baily Morris, Washington, March 23

The Reagan Administration is under renewed pressure from angry farmers to reopen grain talks with the Soviet Union with the aim of selling the Russians an additional nine million tonnes of corn and wheat this year.

A group of influential Congressmen has joined farmers in urging President Reagan both to reopen the talks and to rule out the possibility of any future embargo on grain sales to the Soviet Union.

Mounting unrest among farm groups is presenting the Administration with a difficult political dilemma at a time when it is trying to placate its conservative supporters by adopting a tough position on trade with the Soviet bloc.

A delegation of senior Administration officials has just returned from an apparently unsuccessful mission to Europe where it tried and failed to convince government officials to join with the United States in shutting off Western credit to the financially-pressed East.

In toughening its position on Soviet trade generally, the Administration is now the less refusing to rule out the possibility of renewed, formal grain negotiations with the Russians.

President Reagan met farm leaders yesterday and reiterated his position that farm exports will not be used as a diplomatic weapon except in extreme situations. He indicated that the situation in Poland is not regarded by his Administration as serious enough to warrant the imposition of another embargo similar to the one imposed in 1980 by President Carter in response to Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Indeed, senior White House officials admitted privately that it would be very difficult to placate farm groups for Mr Reagan to halt grain sales at a time when bankruptcies among United States farmers are rising and grain exports are dwindling.

Mr Reagan may be forced, however, to take a more positive position on grain sales if he has so far articulated as both farmers and Congressmen urge him actively to pursue renewed trade with the Soviet Union.

Two influential Republican Senators, including Mr Robert Dole of Kansas and Mr Roger J. Pless of Iowa, appealed to Mr Reagan today to reschedule talks with the Soviet Union as early as next month.

There has been unrest in the past few weeks, leading to tightened security in the cities today. Three thousand people (the government figure) have been arrested recently and the banned political parties have demanded their release.

National Day is also a celebration of the memory of Mr Muhammad Ali Jinnah, founder of the nation. One of today's newspapers, the Muslim, carried a picture of him and quoted his words: "I am sure democracy is in our blood".

The newspaper carried an editorial reflecting the soul-searching which forms part of a growing debate on Pakistani identity.

"That the reality of Pakistan has been contrary to the ideals of its founding fathers is a sad reflection on the quality of our national leadership over the years."

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said that the matter was still being discussed.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Top woman journalist sent to jail

Istanbul.—A military court sentenced Mrs Nazli Ilıcak, Turkey's leading woman columnist, to three years in jail for violating a ban on political debate, said a spokesman for her newspaper, Tercuman, a right-wing daily with a national circulation of more than 500,000 copies.

He said Mrs Ilıcak was found guilty of having violated Communiqué 52 issued by the National Security Council, which virtually bans all political and public debate on Turkey's present and future politics. The military edict was intended to prevent mass media references to parties dissolved by the council on the day the military took over in a coup on September 12, 1980.

The Tercuman spokesman said that Mrs Ilıcak, wife of Mr Kemal Ilıcak, its publisher, was convicted for her article entitled "Fascism on trial" which referred to a mass trial in Ankara in which 220 officials of the ultra-nationalist Action Party took the death penalty for an alleged rightist conspiracy to overthrow the regime in Turkey.

Battle victory claim by Iraq

Iraq said it had launched a big counter-offensive in the Iranian oil province of Khuzestan and had wiped out an Iranian division. Iran, meanwhile, said that its forces had killed thousands of Iraqis and recaptured a large tract of occupied land.

The official Iraqi News Agency, in a report issued to Reuters, said the battle ground at Dezful and Shush was littered with the bodies of Iranian soldiers. Tehran radio, monitored in London, said that more than 5,000 Iraqis had been killed and 7,000 wounded in the recent Iranian offensive.

Dutch Labour hopes fading

Amsterdam.—Nationwide provincial elections in the Netherlands today will give Dutch voters their first opportunity to pronounce on the performance of the six months old Cabinet of Christian Democrats, Labour and Democrats '66 (Robert Schull writes).

Opinion polls indicate that Labour is likely to suffer heavy losses, reflecting the electorate's growing discontent with Mr Joop den Uyl, the Socialist deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Social Affairs and Employment. He agreed to an 8 per cent cut in sick pay and has also been criticized for the country's record unemployment.

Daughter flies to see Kitson

Johannesburg.—Miss Amanda Kitson, a British girl aged 19, has arrived from London to visit her father, who is serving a 20-year sentence for a political offence in Pretoria's central jail. She was accompanied by Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, the British Labour MP and his party spokesman on southern Africa, and a woman friend.

In January Miss Kitson's brother Steven, aged 25, a British subject, was detained in South Africa for five days and put on an aircraft back to London after police said he had been found making sketches of the prison where his father, David, is being held.

US nuclear sub in collision

Norfolk, Virginia.—The American nuclear attack submarine, Jacksonville, and a Turkish-registered cargo ship collided off the Virginia coast, but no one was injured and no radioactive material leaked, the U.S. Navy said. Both vessels were able to sail off under their own power, the Jacksonville to Norfolk and the cargo ship, the General Z. Dogan, to Newport. The submarine was operating on the surface at the time of the collision.

Falklands landing raises clamour in Commons

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

The Government was under pressure yesterday to retain the survey ship HMS Endeavour in the South Atlantic after the illegal landing by a group of Argentine Marines at Leith Harbour, South Georgia, last week. South Georgia is a dependency of the disputed Falkland Islands.

In the Commons, Conservative and Labour members urged the government to reconsider the withdrawal of the vessel or to consider a replacement. There was some indication that Ministers may be having second thoughts after a statement by Lord Trefgarne, Under-Secretary of State, at the Foreign Office, that the matter was still being discussed.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told the Commons that the Argentine naval transport ship and most of the personnel left on Sunday. HMS Endeavour is in the area and there are Marines in the Falklands.

Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, said Mr Luce was warned that this sort of escapade was likely as soon as the withdrawal of the Endeavour became known to Argentina. It would be gross dereliction of duty by the Government to persist in this course.

At Buenos Aires, the British Ambassador, Mr Anthony Williams, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry yesterday to discuss the landing and the military junta's view of the situation, a Government source said.

Astronauts rise to the sound of music

From Piers Akerman, Houston, March 23

Colonel Jack Louma and Colonel Charles Fullerton performed a variety of tasks on board the space shuttle Columbia today to test the capabilities of the orbiter during its third mission.

The commander, Colonel Louma, who suffered motion sickness before going to sleep after the shuttle's first day in space, was feeling much better when awoken by a radio call from the Johnson Space Centre in Houston.

Officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) awoke the men with a tape of the country singer Willie Nelson singing "On the Road Again".

The first task was a test of Columbia's remote controlled manipulator arm which will be used during future flights to place satellites in orbit and retrieve equipment in orbit for return to earth in the space shuttle's cargo bay.

The astronauts said they could see damaged tiles in a small area close to the front windows on the nose of the aircraft. Mr Mark Hess, the Nasa spokesman, said there appeared to be pieces of tiles missing in six areas and that one or two entire tiles might have dislodged during the launch on Monday.

The tiles are white and are not exposed to the highest temperatures during reentry and their loss has not worried Nasa technicians.

Mr Hess said: "Later during the flight the camera on the remote manipulator arm will survey most of Columbia's top side for damage. We assume different areas of the craft damaged during ascent and descent and we will be able to compare the damage Columbia has suffered now with whatever damage occurs during reentry".

Colonel Fullerton turned on one of the 12 experiments in the early afternoon. The experiment is an attempt to produce urokinase from human kidney cells. Seven million frozen kidney cells and an equal number of frozen human red blood cells were taken into space for the experiment.

The kidney and blood cells were mixed with a salt water solution and subjected to an electrical current. It is hoped that the urokinase was produced as the electrical current moved through the solution. After the process was completed in about an hour, the solution was frozen for the return trip to earth.

Nun the wiser Lourdes.—Two young women police inspectors disguised as nuns, who are patrolling Lourdes to prevent visitors being robbed by pickpockets, have made numerous arrests.

Opp woman journalist sent to jail

Anbul. — A military sentenced Mrs Nedir Turkey's leading journalist, to three years in jail for violating a political debate, said a spokesman for her newspaper, *Tercuman*, said a military court with a national trial of more than 100 copies.

Mrs Nedir was found guilty of having violated the National Security Law, which virtually bans political life and public opinion on Turkey's past, military and future policies. The court also sentenced her to prevent mass meetings and parties by the council on the military took over in a coup on September 12.

The *Tercuman* spokesman said Mrs Nedir, who is married to a journalist, was convicted for her article entitled "Fascism in Turkey" which referred to a trial in Ankara in which officials of the Nationalist Action Party had been sentenced to death for a rightist conspiracy to overthrow the regime a year.

Battle victory claim by Iraq

Iraq said it had launched a counter-offensive in the oil province of Khuzestan and had wiped out an Iranian division. Iranian media, said that its forces had recaptured a large tract of occupied land.

The official Iraqi News Agency, in a report telecast on Tuesday, said the Iranian soldiers, Tehran, mentioned in London, that more than 5,000 Iraqis had been killed and 10,000 wounded in the recent Iranian offensive.

Dutch Labour hopes fading

Amsterdam. — National elections scheduled in the Netherlands today will give the Dutch Labour Party a chance to win power for the first time since 1966.

The Committee of Agricultural Organizations in the European Community (COGEA) and the General Committee of Agricultural Corporation (COGEC) have said they want a 16.3 per cent increase in European currency unit incomes for the next marketing year starting on April 1.

The organizations argue this should permit a substantial reduction in positive

Daughter flies to see Kitson

London. — A British girl, aged 14, has flown to the United States to see her father, who is a member of the House of Commons.

The girl, who is the daughter of a Member of Parliament, has flown to the United States to see her father, who is a member of the House of Commons.

US nuclear sub in collision

Norfolk, Virginia. — A US nuclear submarine, the *Scorpion*, has collided with a small boat in the Atlantic Ocean.

The *Scorpion*, a fast attack submarine, was on a routine patrol when it collided with a small boat.

Ending raises Commons

Parliamentary Correspondent. — The Commons has raised the issue of ending the Falkland Islands' status as a British Overseas Territory.

The issue was raised during a debate on the Falkland Islands.

Farmers invade Paris calling for higher prices

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 23

Mr François Guillaume, the leader of the 700,000-strong French National Farmers' Union, appears to have won his wager to bring together 100,000 farmers in the biggest demonstration ever held in Paris. It was held in protest against the steady decline in their living standards in the past eight years, and to bring pressure on the Government to seek out in Brussels for a substantial increase in farm prices.

M. Guillaume wanted this to be a show of the peasants' power in the land, and of his own over them — and he got it.

All throughout the night, more than 1,500 buses, in as many cars, and by train, the farmers, including the big industrialized ones from the Beauce, the Brie and the Somme, as well as those who are a few acres and a couple of cows from Brittany and Auvergne, converged on the Place de la Nation, in Paris.

Some from the Tarn-et-Garonne told me they had travelled 10 hours by bus. The vast square was black with people. The four-mile-long cortege proceeded by tractors, from which chains and sharp pieces of metal had been removed to avoid temptation, and by farmers' leaders, got slowly underway. It was accompanied by steady bursts of flares and bangs of bird scarers, which conjured up warlike reminiscences.

From the early hours, groups of farmers lay in wait for office workers at railway and metro stations to distribute

Figures prove the slide

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 23

A Commission report this month disclosed that French farmers' incomes had suffered in real terms more than those in any other member state since 1977.

The trend in lower farm incomes in France began in 1973 — three years before the rest of the Community — due to both a severe squeeze on costs relative to pricing and to a significant slowing in the growth of production.

The Committee of Agricultural Organizations in the European Community (COGEA) and the General Committee of Agricultural Corporation (COGEC) have said they want a 16.3 per cent increase in European currency unit incomes for the next marketing year starting on April 1.

The organizations argue this should permit a substantial reduction in positive

EEC silver jubilee: Part 3

Europe speaks, the world listens

This is the last of three articles by Ian Murray in Brussels marking the first quarter-century of the European Economic Community, which was created with the signing of the Treaty of Rome on March 25, 1957.

If it has done nothing else over the past quarter of a century, the EEC has succeeded in putting Europe on the world trade map. Although the Community continues inside the Community, from the outside it represents the most important trading block in the world. In consequence, when Europe speaks, the world increasingly listens.

Given the current economic climate, it seems clear that if the EEC had not been created 25 years ago, something like it would be necessary today if its individual member countries were to have any chance of facing the pressures of the United States and Japan. The Community may or may not be doing the job badly, but the fact is that Europe is now an established entity in the minds of trading partners.

Japan is being made to think seriously about opening its markets much more than it would like. Even France, with its strong protectionist streak, is coming over to the view that the best way to force concessions from Japan is to do so collectively.

The United States now negotiates on trade quite naturally with Europe. Fibre producers in the Third World have been obliged to make their arrangements with the Community as a whole.

Protecting its security and trade has led the Community forward into developing its own foreign policy — an



FDP resists pressure to oust Schmidt

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 23

West Germany's small, but politically vital, Free Democratic Party (FDP) today resisted all pressure to bring about a change of Government in Bonn after Sunday's Lower Saxony Land elections.

The victory of the Lower Saxony Christian Democrats and the severe losses of the Social Democrats (SPD), which confirmed a strong national trend, brought calls from the CDU for the Free Democrats to abandon the tattered, 12-year-old coalition with Herr Helmut Schmidt's SPD in Bonn and form a new Government with themselves.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, leader of the CDU's Bavarian sister party, even said he did not rule out the possibility of an FDP-CDU coalition by the end of this year. But after a parliamentary party meeting in West Berlin, Herr Wolfgang Mischnick, the FDP floor leader, said the party had no reason to consider a change of Government.

The FDP made their decisions according to what they thought right "and not according to the expectations of Franz Josef Strauss", he added tartly.

Namibia moves inch by inch towards independence

From Michael Hornsby Oshakati, Northern Namibia March 23

"Swapo's strength is down by 10 to 15 per cent on what it was a year ago. The number of incidents has also dropped, and I am sure we will eventually eliminate Swapo as a fighting force," Brigadier Jan Klopper, Chief of Staff Operation, told visiting correspondents at South African military headquarters in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, last week.

This confident assessment of the current state of the 17-year-old guerrilla war between South Africa and the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) guerrillas fighting for the independence of Namibia (South West Africa) was echoed by Army commanders at forward bases along the territory's 1,000-mile northern frontier with southern Angola, much of it an unprotected "cut-line" through dense bush.

While detailed independent verification of the Army's claims is impossible, a tour of military bases from Oshakati in Ovamboland to Mpacha in the eastern Caprivi Strip offered reasonably convincing evidence that the South Africans are having little difficulty in containing Swapo's threat, and over the past year have sharply reduced its military effectiveness.

What seems certain is that, as the complex diplomatic negotiations nudge Namibia inch by inch closer towards internationally approved independence, Swapo's guerrilla activity will be one less important factor determining how quickly a settlement is eventually reached.

There is little doubt that the South Africans, if they wanted, could go on fighting this war for many years. It is, in the jargon of military analysts, a "low-intensity" war: so low, in fact, that the number of guerrilla-related incidents in an average month is about equal to the number occurring daily during the last stages of the civil war in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia.

That said, the conflict is a far from negligible drain on South Africa's resources, costing, it is thought, about 400m rand (£230m) a year and tying down up to half the standing Army of 60,000-plus men at a time of growing activity by black nationalist guerrillas in South Africa itself. The defence budget was increased last year by 30 per cent.

The guerrilla war is concentrated on Ovamboland, an area of 20,540 square miles criss-crossed by river beds, dotted by salt-pans and covered mainly by scrub and stunted mopani trees. More than 60 per cent of its 475,000 Ovambo-speaking inhabitants — half the population of Namibia — live in the central part of Ovamboland and within 30 miles of the Angolan border. As many Ovambos again live on the far side of the border.

The area thus meets the classic Maoist definition of the ideal guerrilla environment, offering a sea within which the guerrilla fish ("terrorists") to the South Africans (the "fishermen") of Mr Sam Nujoma organization, which draws its support mainly from the Ovambos, can swim.

The South Africans struck a heavy military blow at Swapo in Ovamboland last August and September, in which they claim to have killed more than 1,000 Swapo guerrillas and Angolan soldiers, seized large amounts of weapons and destroyed missile-protected early warning radar sites at Camama and Chibemba.

Swapo suffered further losses during the three-week Operation Daisy in October, when the South Africans struck at the guerrillas' main command post south of Cassinga in the central part of southern Angola.

The South Africans estimate that Swapo has 6,000 trained troops at its disposal, compared with a figure of 7,500 military analysts have hitherto believed. This is still surprisingly high.

However, if South Africa's claims to have killed 4,500 Swapo troops in the past year are accepted, the Army's main problem may well be convincing the local population that they have less to fear from their supposed protectors than Swapo.

As Brigadier Rudolf Badenhorst, the commanding officer at Oshakati, put it "every family has its naughty children".

VOICE OF AMERICA CHIEF QUILTS

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 23

Mr James Conkling, who was appointed by the Reagan Administration to take charge of the Voice of America broadcasting network, has resigned after 10 months in office.

According to Mr Charles Wick, the director of the United States International Communication Agency which is responsible for the network, Mr Conkling's resignation was voluntary and reflected his inability to adjust to working in government.

Soon after Mr Conkling took over, a number of senior executives resigned, fearing that he wanted Voice of America to play a more active propaganda role. These fears seemed to be confirmed last year with the appointment of Mr Philip Nicolaidis.

Mr Nicolaidis was responsible for a memorandum advocating the turning of the Voice of America into a direct propaganda arm.

Nato planners poised to rebuff Brezhnev offer

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Defence ministers attending Nato's nuclear planning group meeting which opened yesterday are expected to rebuff Mr Brezhnev's offer of a freeze on Soviet nuclear missiles in Europe.

But Mr John Nott, Britain's Secretary for Defence, also due to urge the United States to initiate talks with the Soviet Union this summer over reducing their stockpiles of strategic weapons.

He wants, meanwhile, to use the two-day meeting as an opportunity to extract more details from Mr Casper Weinberger, his American counterpart, about the job opportunities open to British firms in the manufacture of the Trident 2 missile.

Altogether 11 defence ministers, plus officials from Portugal and Greece, came together for the six-monthly planning group meeting at Colorado Springs. The two-day session is providing them with their first opportunity to discuss the Brezhnev initiative in the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) talks at Geneva.

The INF negotiations opened between the superpowers at Geneva on November 30.

The resumption of similar talks over Soviet and American foreign ministers at separate one-day meetings in Geneva two months ago. But US resentment over the Polish crisis overshadowed the rendezvous.

Now Mr Weinberger has reopened the prospect of strategic arms reduction talks (start) this summer, assuming that the Russians agree, and Mr Nott and other European ministers do not want to see US administration change its mind.

For his part, Mr Nott will tell the planning group that British preparations for the basing of 160 American cruise missiles at Greenham Common, Berks and ultimately Molesworth, Cambridge-shire — are on schedule for deployment of the first missiles by the end of next year.

Letter from Beirut Lebanese shake, rattle and roll

Every morning at about 6.30 *The Times's* modest apartment on the Beirut seashore shakes to the blast of explosions.

This is no mere metaphor: the floor actually moves. The floor perceptibly wobbles back and forth for a few seconds. The pictures do not fall off the wall, but a pencil will usually roll off the desk and the curtain will sway ominously away from the windows.

Readers unused to daily life in Beirut may put this unsettling phenomenon down to the shell-fire that rumbles nightly in the commercial centre of the city, a mile and a half from the apartment. More sophisticated readers may attribute the tremors to the gun battles that break out behind the Corniche. Not long ago, after all, the Lebanese resident of a neighbouring block of flats was shot clean out of his fifth-floor window in a blaze of gunfire. He fell all the way to the ground where — this being Lebanon — he was shot again for good measure.

Recent visitors to Beirut might even suggest that the car bombs which now explode with chilling regularity along the Corniche, a mile and a half in the other direction, might have set up the blasts.

But they would all. It is the fishermen who make the apartment move. Once again, readers accustomed to paintings of Arab fishermen, gently plying their trade in the waters of the Holy Land may be confused. For there is no trawling and heaving in of nets for your average Lebanese fisherman: ever aware of the laws of supply and demand, he simply chucks a hand-grenade into the water, rides out the tremendous explosion that follows beneath the surface, and then pull on the might catch which rises — somewhat stunned, it is true — from the deep.

Most boats travel with a basket of grenades at the ready and it is even possible, from *The Times's* balcony, to see young men hurling explosives into the water with both hands. This is not as easy as it looks. During the civil war, I sat in one such boat while a spotty-faced youth tried to throw explosives into the water. Thrown constantly off balance by the waves, he developed an alarming propensity for bouncing the grenades off the sides of the vessel. The method, it seems, is to withdraw the pin at the last moment and hurl the grenade at the fish rather than the passengers in the boat.

When the Turks controlled Beirut, they installed an underground gas pipeline system. Wiped out that, it still worked. Today, residents use gas canisters hauled to upstairs apartments by suppliers of Croesus-like venality. These battered iron canisters lie, lethal and exposed, on balconies around the capital, and many a stray bullet has blown apart a kitchen and its occupants because they insisted on using a gas cooker. *The Times's* canister is secluded on the most sheltered balcony and do for the block of flats has received only five bullet holes.

Not so this newspaper's car, which has taken seven bullets, mostly on the front line in central Beirut. The vehicle repair shop in Fin Mreisse charges just £25 to patch up the holes. None have yet appeared in *The Times's* correspondent — nor will they if the city's taxi drivers have their way.

Some months ago I arrived at Beirut airport to find a gun battle under way between Syrians, leftist militia and Lebanese police. Bullets were throwing into the road in front of the terminal. I threw myself, panting shamelessly, into the back of an old yellow taxi whose owner turned to his new passenger, delighting in a supposedly rich European captive in his car.

There was a flash of gold teeth and a wide smile in the violent darkness. "Welcome to Lebanon," he said. I couldn't have put it better myself.

Spanish democrats rally to the King

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 23

How can Spain's democrats best respond to the challenge symbolized in the sergeant-major-like phrase of Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, on trial for his part in last year's attempted military uprising, that its purpose was to "make the nation shape up properly?"

How can the name of King Juan Carlos, the personification of threatened democracy on the night of the attempted coup, February 23, 1981, be protected?

These are the questions the country's democratic forces are now agonizing over since the Government has entrusted the trial of 32 officers and one civilian to the Army itself.

This has meant a double inhibition: the normal one of any executive before a court hearing an important case plus the "independence" of the Spanish Army with its caste-like values.

The problem has come to a head because of the persistent attempt to involve King Juan Carlos in the coup plot by many of the accused and their lawyers. This ignores the fact that Spain has a limited monarchy and the 1978 democratic constitution expressly states: "The person of the King is inviolable and is not subject to accountability."

All the King's conduct, both on the night of the coup and before, indicates he was not involved.

All the democratic parties in Parliament have condemned the campaign against the King. The press has been eloquent in this support and Señor Alberto Oliart, the Defence Minister, told a military audience in Madrid: "Any attack on the King is an attack on the armed forces."

The Government's strategy has been to stake everything on obtaining from the military firm sentences for the accused. But this is precisely the point most worrying many democrats as the trial enters its fifth week.

As the professional wife of a Madrid businessman put it

TWA to and through the USA

USA car-hire from £27 a week? TWA!

For holiday makers from the UK, TWA have negotiated USA car hire rates from only £27 a week, luxury hotels from £21 per night combined with flights from only £271 return.

Mix-and-match your flights, routes, hotels as you please.

See your Main Agent

You're going to like us

Television Minefield of comedy

Scenes of everyday life in the black townships of South Africa and the unexpected arrival there of the Messiah, or Murana, are the subject of a brilliant two-man entertainment by Percy Mwa and Mbongeni Ngema called *Woz Albert!* (Rise Up, Albert) which was the subject of last night's *Everyman* (BBC 1). David M. Thompson's programme comprised excerpts from the show interviews with the writer-actors, street scenes which inspired their inventiveness and reactions from Blacks and Whites who have seen it in theatres and halls all over the Republic. It was nice, said one young white couple, grinning shyly, it was nice to know the Blacks felt about their life; presumably the point had never been made so effectively before.

Woz Albert! is a bitter comic strip, run on a minefield in which Mwa and Ngema employ all the basic theatrical skills of mime, energy, intelligence, timing and wit to impersonate everything from young boys selling meat to old men threatening to sue, where necessary, hair clippers, bulldozers and a helicopter over Table Bay. The end is high political theatre and it worked like a dream on the box.

Beside the last of Andre Sijner's trilogy on life in contemporary Africa (*Disappearing World*, Granada) seemed to come from an unreachable idyll of historic time while the problems of Christine in *A Sudden Wrench* (BBC 1) seemed positively luxurious. Singer, his director Leslie Woodhead and anthropologist David Tuxton went to one of the very remote inhabited areas of the continent left responsible either by white settlers or through the latter is on its way — the Kwana and the Mursi of Southwest Ethiopia co-exist interdependently on the banks of a fast river full of crocodiles in a world of carefully assigned territory and function. More, they are elegant, humorous and skilful; merely to watch one rub two sticks together and blow smoke into flame was a delight.

The heroine of Paula Milne's play was a white lower-middle-class English man who felt useless and abandoned by her family at the age of 43. She attended a consciousness-raising session at her daughter's school, spoke tremblingly to Anna Raeburn, took up central heating maintenance and got a job as a housewife. Her triumph came, we were asked to believe, when the lads offered to deal her in on their game, and she had the good sense to refuse. *A Sudden Wrench* was both hilarious and touching, to believe, and overlong at one hour, but it was beautifully played by the always sympathetic and much-underused Rosemary Martin.

Granada took the unusual step of asking the press to be present at the first screening because the new series has begun with what is described as the first ever prosecution of a journalist under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 1976. The television reporter John Dickinson (Dennis Lawson) is accused of failing to pass on information that would have helped the police to arrest or convict a terrorist. If you arrived, as I did, five minutes late in court you might have been convicted on the fact that the prosecuting counsel is courteous, concerned and impeccably made up while the defence, contrary to all convention, is purple-lipped and snide, but otherwise lay viewers can find everything in place: solid downbeat acting, clear direction and exposition of all points of view, with only counsel and one witness for light relief and to go over the top. Verdict: tomorrow.

Michael Ratcliffe

Sara Kestelman made her name with the RSC, in the Peter Brook 'Midsummer Night's Dream'. Next week she returns in 'Macbeth' to start a season which promises to be the strongest in years. Interview by Sheridan Morley.

A world larger than life

The Stratford season which opens on the RSC's main stage with a new *Macbeth* today week-end, it is a season largely run by young directors (Howard Davies, Adrian Noble, Ron Daniels) but its central casting (Derek Jacobi, Michael Gambon, Helen Mirren and Sara Kestelman) suggests that, despite the lure of the Barbican and the fact that most recent RSC successes have come from the company's work in London, the need to repair some of the fences surrounding its first Warwickshire base.

The last Stratford *Macbeth* was six seasons ago, the celebrated Ian McKellen-Judi Dench chamber production by Trevor Nunn, this one marks a return to the wide stage and, for Sara Kestelman, a return to the role she first played five years ago opposite Keith Baxter at Birmingham. Later this season at Stratford she goes on to a double Goneril (opposite Gambon) on the main stage in Shakespeare, and opposite her current *Macbeth*, Bob Peck, at the Other Place in the Edward Bond variant) and then an as yet unannounced *Sweet Bird of Youth* which she will do at the Other Place before moving the whole batch into the Barbican after Newcastle early next year.

This is for her a kind of homecoming. Sara Kestelman first joined the RSC in 1968, made her London debut with them a year later at the Aldwych and then made her name with Brook's *Midsummer Night's Dream* for which she played Hippolyta and Titania. Since then, until now, she has not been back.

She was born in London 37 years ago, the only daughter of the artist Morris Kestelman who designed the sets for *Oliver's Richard III* and the *Allegory of the Fall* during historic wartime seasons at the New Theatre. "My mother was a dress designer and they'd met at art school, so I grew up among painters and designers with the deep conviction that I was destined to be a dancer. I studied for 13

years without ever getting to be very good, but it was as a dancer that I first got into the theatre."

When she was 16, in 1960, she got into the last Robert Atkins season at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park as "a nymph" in *The Tempest*. "In those days I had a lot of red hair and Atkins had always fancied young red-haired ladies, but at the Camden School for Girls they seemed to think it was all good experience, so they used to let me off on Wednesday afternoons to do the matinees. It was like being thrown back suddenly into the mid-1920s; Atkins never knew who I was but used to shout 'You out of the way' when he wanted something else to happen. By then he was too ill to go on playing Prospero himself, so he used to lurk in the bar reminiscing with Russell Thorndike until the interval when he'd wander into the wings and as the nymphs were all making their exit, there'd be a little scream and a lot of rustling and you'd know he'd pounced again. On the last night he made a wonderful, sad, bitter speech about how he'd never had a subsidy or any proper recognition and after it we were told to lock our dressing-room doors but at 75 he climbed up a drainpipe and through the lavatory window to kiss us all goodbye. It was a different world."

From the modern theatre, first as a student at the Central in the generation of Jack Shepherd and Marty Cruickshank, and then straight into rep at the Liverpool Playhouse and the Library Theatre, Manchester.

"Ten years ago, that was, in 1967, I went to the landlady and on the other five you could live quite surprisingly well. I had this fantasy about becoming a film star but in the meantime I went on doing the real work and that's how it's always been. The RSC first asked me to do a play, then a carrier straight from drama school, but that seemed a bit pointless so I did the rep instead and by the time I did join I was allowed to understudy Sheila Allen

as Goneril, the role I'm playing now, in the Eric Porter *Leah*; then I took over from Sue Fleetwood on an American tour of *Much Ado* and that led to the *Brook Dream*.

"With one or two exceptions, like Alan Howard, most of that company was still extremely inexperienced in Shakespeare and Peter could be very frightening; every night I went home from rehearsals wondering whether I'd ever be able to do it and right up until the first press night Peter seemed as unsure as the rest of us about precisely what sort of show we had. I remember doing two or three try-outs in front of children at the Arts Centre in Birmingham but it was only on the last two or three days of rehearsal that he suddenly became authoritarian and started giving us fixed moves. The first night was like a tightrope; we had to fall or fly, and we flew."

That *Dream* became a passport to other work, and Sara Kestelman used it to leave the RSC and branch out into television as well as her West End venture, an eccentric Tony Richardson stage version of *Claudius*.

"We were all summoned to rehearsals in a French village that Tony seemed to have bought. You either love a man like that or you hate him, and I loved him; besides, Messalina was the most marvellous part — dancer, mistress, prostitute, and died an Empress. What more could an actress want? We drank a lot of champagne in Tony's swimming pool while John Mortimer was bashing out a script, but sadly that feeling of euphoria did not spread to the reviews and we were off in a month. Still, I'd not have missed it for anything."

Miss Kestelman's film experience has not been a lot happier; despite distinguished work for John Boorman in *Zardoz* and Ken Russell in *Lesbianism* her one bid for box-office success was as the Cheshire Cat in a screen version of *Alice* for which she spent five days stuck up in a tree trying to operate a mechanical hat before being replaced by Roy Kinnear.



Sara Kestelman rehearsing "Macbeth" at Stratford

"They kept telling me to look sexy like Eartha Kitt, and all I felt was extremely silly; I was padded up like an elephant by a Shepperton costume designer who kept calling me Joan and the whole thing was a fiasco."

From that she went to the comparative safety of the National Theatre where she spent five happy years from 1977, first of all taking over from Maria Aiken in *Bedroom Farce* and then playing everything from *Bolt's State of Revolution* to Rosalind in *Dexter's As You Like It*.

"But gradually the roles got

older and older until I think they thought I'd become Coral Browne, so I decided maybe it was time to move on again. I went to the Young Vic to play *Childe Byron* with David Essex, which was fascinating, not because it entirely worked — which it did not — "but because of Essex. I've been lucky in working with some larger-than-life people of different generations from Atkins through Kestelman and Tony Richardson to Essex, and that in a way is what this business is all about, people. It's certainly a lot more interesting than marriage or children. So they tell me."

Theatre

Blow on Blow

Soho Poly

Few crimes are condemned more quickly than childbeating, and few criminals defend themselves more glibly than those who beat children. *Blow on Blow*, the newest offering in the Soho Poly's season of German plays, is a startlingly candid about the whole business. The more so since all the words are taken from one life, from the story told to a Berlin court by a woman who was sentenced to several years in prison for the brutal beatings of one of her children.

That single voice has been edited by Maria Reinhard to tell a story as harsh as any of the beatings. Veronika M's sometimes rambling statement reaches back to her own childhood memories of a strict mother, of a beating from her father when he swung her by her legs and banged her head against the wall of institution followed by institution where she grew up in the arms of the German state. In about an hour of speaking, the story moves through her marriages and childhood experiences, with husbands either bigamous or jailed, until she meets a man who lifts her out of drink and builds a home with her.

Despite the partial rescue of her life, the state imposes penalties on her earlier lapses and she is imprisoned while her children are taken into care. She fights to regain one particular child, taken away in infancy, but that girl is the one who takes the worst of the mother's blows, the one who finds herself bashed against the wall as Veronika M had been. The Soho Poly's production of this searing testimony is removed from the courtroom. It takes place in what amounts to an expressionistic cage, enclosing the audience and designed by Claudia Mayer as an immensely suggestive environment exposing the elements of Veronika M's life.

Chailin's fencing presses a lifetime of clothing to each wall while Kika Markham wanders restlessly through the room, telling the story and gradually preparing to return to prison. Miss Markham is more restless than she needs to be, without all the modulations that would finally release the pain of Veronika's life. But she is still feeling her way through the demands of the text and is generally working towards a more effective end. She speaks the words of the translation by Estella Schmid and Billy Colvill with a naturalism too near to life, but the honesty of Veronika M burns through.

Ned Chaillet

'AN ASTONISHING TOUR DE FORCE'
FINANCIAL TIMES

AN EVENING'S INTERCOURSE
WITH THE WORLD LEAD
LADY HYMENEES

LAST 3 WEEKS!
SEASON MUST END APRIL

Theatre & Royal
Drury Lane
BOOK NOW!
BOX OFFICE - 01-336 8106
AND ALL MAJOR TICKET AGENTS

OPENS MARCH 31

'A GREAT FART'

NOISES OFF

SAVOY 01-836 8888
01-930 0731
Reductions for Parties
Booked prior to April 24

CAT
Original Version / New print

Bette Davis
in
William Wyler's
LITTLE FOXES
Starts Thurs March 25

MAGNIFICENT NEW PRODUCTION
Sunday Times

ALL MY SONS
WYNDHAM'S THEATRE

Dance

Ideas out of context

Ballet Rambert

Sadler's Wells

Richard Alston's treatment of *The Rite of Spring* was given at Sadler's Wells on Monday, completing the repertoire for Ballet Rambert's London season. The work, which was both differently cast from the premiere a year ago. Quinny Sacks now plays the chosen girl, giving an account of the part that is slightly less crazed than Sally Owen's, but no less fearful.

Alston's choreography must share the blame for the role's ineffectiveness. It starts with the interesting concept of making the sage a catalyst who, rather than choosing the sacrificial victim, simply provokes her into picking herself. But to make the most of that idea, the part probably needs to be more active, to bring over a more brooding presence or to needle the potential victims more sharply.

As it stands, Alston's *Rite* is full of good ideas; the sense of cold, for instance, or the presence of the protective older woman. But the ideas are not fully worked into a dramatic context, so that, although it is easy to admire what he has

done, one is not very likely to be moved by it.

Actually, Paul Taylor's *Airs*, also given in this programme, in spite of being in form a simple suite of dances with no story line, conveys more to the viewer by the quality of the dances and their relation to Handel's music. Lucy Bethune this week has taken over a solo danced last week by Lucy Burge; she does it with a pleasing directness, and also said of Rebecca Ham, another replacement leading the ballet's central section.

Taylor's choreography puts all seven dancers in *Airs* into prominence at one time or another, but, to succeed, the performance has to reach a good sense of ensemble. The Rambert cast is not quite uniform enough yet in its standard, but there are some fine individual contributions (Hugh Craig, a young man of special promise, gives a notably controlled energy to all his entries) and it will not be long to bring the whole into focus.

The company generally is looking good under Robert North's leadership, and the programmes he has chosen offer an attractive choice of contrasting styles. You would expect a very eclectic taste, enjoy equally all the works he has added to the repertoire, but a season that includes both *Airs* and Bruce's theatrical *Ghost Dances* among its premieres offers much to bring the whole into focus.

John Percival

Sinfonietta/Knuussen

Queen Elizabeth Hall/Radio 3

Just as the fantasy world of a child's imagination can often be more richly stimulated by stories read and heard than by the specificity of television images, so, tantalizing as it was, the first British concert performance on Monday of Oliver Knussen's fantasy opera *Where the Wild Things Are* worked its own magic.

From the programme's commentary and monochrome pictures, we could well imagine what the unfinished stage premiere must have been like in Brussels in 1980. Yet it is the meticulously heard and crafted and often beguilingly beautiful colours and textures of Knussen's score that illumine Maurice Sendak's springing libretto.

What makes Knussen's deliberate attempt to revive professional fantasy opera for children (à la *Hansel and Gretel* and *L'enfant et les sortilèges*) so successful is not only this detail but the dramatic potential of the music itself, the more keenly appreciated in concert performance. The climactic sixth scene is, frustratingly, still not ready; but how effective the magic from real to fantasy world as the boy hero Max rocks in a boat on a sea of horn, harp and tremolando strings in the first interlude, how sensitively placed the last three scenes — he returns, wind, turned percussion and strings seeming to suspend and finally restore his physical and emotional security.

The London Sinfonietta, under Knussen himself, brought the work as near the theatre as possible (it is to be staged by ENO at Christmas), just as the Sinfonietta Voices, fleshed out with such fierce fun the "pidgia Yiddish", the

Concerts

Festival of India

Festival Hall

Monday night's inaugural concert of the Festival of India marked the start of an eight-month presentation of the science and technology in various parts of London. It was built around three outstanding Indian musicians: M. S. Subbulakshmi, Ravi Shankar and Zubin Mehta.

Miss Subbulakshmi, a singer, had the first half, which formed an anthology of Carnatic (southern Indian) devotional pieces, several items each with its distinctive raga and tala being linked together. The accompaniment was provided by a small ensemble of violin, mridangam, ghata, kanjira and two sitars, and there were rises and falls of intensity within this group that were quite unpredictable to the Western ear.

At the same time, one soon got a sense of this music as being an intricate commentary on the vocal line. The violin playing, at once so intriguingly similar and dissimilar to European practice, was what one most easily relates to, although there was also a marvellous percussion interlude towards the end. This was full of invention and subtlety.

After the interval, East and

Concerts

Festival of India

Festival Hall

West met in their proverbial fashion with *Raga-Mala* (Concerto No 2) for sitar and orchestra by Ravi Shankar, in which the composer was accompanied by the London Philharmonic conducted by Zubin Mehta. This was the European premiere of a work, in four movements, written during 1978-80, and it was a curious experience to hear the symphony orchestra employed in such an unusual way. The main point, though, was combining an (amplified) sitar with orchestra, something for which there are few precedents. This gave rise to many unexpected textures, and the music was full of colour and animation. It was Ravi Shankar's playing that drew the ear like a magnet, however, and one came away with a renewed appreciation of what an extraordinary virtuoso he is.

Max Harrison

LSO/Menuehin

Barbican Hall

Yehudi Menuhin is conducting the London Symphony Orchestra's concert in the Barbican this week. Their symphony on Monday night was Beethoven's *Eroica*. They began with Mozart's D major Divertimento, K205.

William Mann

London debuts

Too little substance

It was both curious and frustrating that the young flautist Bette Richards should travel all the way from the States to make her British debut in the Purcell Room with such a remarkably insubstantial programme. In just under an hour (including interval) the most weighty and also most imaginatively played piece was Copland's *Duo* for flute and piano, its open-air, yodelling calls modulated from near to far with a steadiness of breath control that could soon tauten into daring dance rhythms and back again.

While her Faure *Fantasie* was fluent but expressively over-cautious, the mischievous neo-classic melodic counterpoint of her enterprisingly chosen Three Preludes by Robert Muczynski revealed a sharp musical intelligence. It was the more pity that we had so little chance to see it develop and prove itself, and a pity, too, that Miss Richards saddled herself with such a slow-witted and amateurish pianist.

Marianne Blok, the Dutch coloratura soprano who has appeared as guest artist with the ENO and Kent Opera, made her recital debut at the Wigmore Hall. The most distinctive, hauntingly still, pure beauty of her natural voice made three very *antique* unusually compelling, particularly her cunning and effectively ornamented *Cacci* "Amarilli". Fluctuating between a fey poignancy and a fiery flirtatiousness, the very mobility of her voice was particularly well suited to Wolf-Ferrari's *Four Rosperti*, while her Spanish songs displayed expressive versatility and skilful contouring within a harder, brighter coloratura timbre.

Concerts

Festival of India

Festival Hall

Before the concert I had wondered whether Menuhin might lead the performance himself as violinist; but he was content with a baton to guide a small string ensemble, founded on two doublebasses, and with bassoon doubling the cellos.

Menuhin has been leading chamber orchestral performances of this kind since his Bath Festival days. One could have foreseen that he would tend the *Adagio* with loving hands, that phrasing and nuance would be scrupulously tailored, and the music's moods sympathetically evoked. Ensemble and inner part-movement left a little to be desired in the first movement, and the pulse of the first minuet sounded too heavy and earthy for a courtly dance. A larger band took the platform for Schumann's Piano Concerto. Sitting upstairs in the first tier, I noticed that the woodwind projected their music more immediately than the LSO strings, and that Krystian Zimerman allowed the solo part to melt in the mouth, so to say, without sacrificing the clarity of the woodwind's projection.

William Mann

London debuts

Too little substance

It is, however, a voice which can more easily adopt a personality than reveal one: for this reason her Strauss "Ophelia" songs, and the rarely heard Ophelia aria from Ambroise Thomas's *Hamlet* were more appropriate choices than "Morgen", "Nacht" and "Ständchen", which need more than technical skill and beauty of sound for their full musical nourishment.

If one had a sense of déjà vu at the London debut of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe it is because members of this group, spawned from the European Community Youth Orchestra, did play in St John's Smith Square, as much as two years ago. Now they are grown up, though, and it was indeed their first public London concert as professionals. The high calibre of their individual musicianship, their strength of ensemble, their well-groomed and always freshly confident playing were apparent from the first notes of Mozart's D major Divertimento to the last notes of Beethoven's second symphony. The clarity and imaginative nuance of part-writing was as audible in the lush romance of Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll* as in Stravinsky's *Dumbarton Oaks*.

They respond with enthusiasm and alertness to their musical director, James Leighton, but he need not push them so hard, nor impose his own albeit exhilarating character so forcefully on their playing. Speed and brilliance in the Mozart and more particularly the Beethoven made both the music and the playing seem unnecessarily lightweight and self-regarding.

Hilary Finch

Van Morrison

Dominion

There is a line in one of Van Morrison's recent devotional songs which goes: "mystical rapture... I am in ecstasy". It is not so very many years since he would take an apparently mundane line or phrase from one of his secular songs, and, by exaggerated repetition and elaboration, put himself in the kind of trance which suggested precisely that condition without needing to make such a literal statement.

His current work may be missing the majestic ambition and spiritual ambiguity of such an earlier classic as "Madame George", but then Morrison could not forever continue to teeter on the brink of his own sanity, between dreams and waking, which was the condition that invested his music of a dozen years ago with such uncommon power. If he has chosen to open his eyes and to retreat from the edge, then he makes up for the shedding of mystery by a concentration on his great ability to focus musical forces.

Long before Bruce Springsteen appeared, Morrison was searching for an

Rock

idealized synthesis of rock and

and '60s styles, hoping to include a charming gothic-sounding arrangement of "It's All in the Game", an intent version of Sonny Boy Williamson's demon-driven "Help Me", a relaxed "Tupelo Honey", and a clutch of new songs, either nostalgic ("Cleaning Windows"), or devotional ("She Gives Me Religion"). "Dweller on the Threshold", "Beautiful Vision", Of the latter, noteworthy were "Vanito Staircase", in which Morrison produced a few bars of brilliantly appropriate lead guitar, and another in which his rapid-fire monologue mentioned Joyce, Eliot, Auden, Isherwood, Ginsberg and both Dylans before peaking in an electrifying exchange of shouts with Ellis. The encores included a disappointingly slack "Cyprian Avenue", a ferocious "Gloria", and a celebratory "What'd I Say".

Someone complained afterwards that Morrison remains an awkward performer who still does not know what to do with himself between songs or during other musicians' solos. Nothing becomes him and his music so well as that utter lack of artifice.

Richard Williams

Van Morrison

Dominion

There is a line in one of Van Morrison's recent devotional songs which goes: "mystical rapture... I am in ecstasy". It is not so very many years since he would take an apparently mundane line or phrase from one of his secular songs, and, by exaggerated repetition and elaboration, put himself in the kind of trance which suggested precisely that condition without needing to make such a literal statement.

His current work may be missing the majestic ambition and spiritual ambiguity of such an earlier classic as "Madame George", but then Morrison could not forever continue to teeter on the brink of his own sanity, between dreams and waking, which was the condition that invested his music of a dozen years ago with such uncommon power. If he has chosen to open his eyes and to retreat from the edge, then he makes up for the shedding of mystery by a concentration on his great ability to focus musical forces.

Long before Bruce Springsteen appeared, Morrison was searching for an



Morrison: lack of artifice

Outbreak of peace over the Wall

Patricia Clough reports on a growing East German movement against nuclear armaments

Quietly and unobtrusively, something that looks remarkably like a peace movement is growing up in the most loyal and strategically important wing of the Soviet camp: East Germany.

It is still a tender plant which could easily be crushed under the communist Government's heel. But the East German authorities, who unwittingly nurtured it themselves, seem at a loss to know what to do about it.

It has been fed for months on a massive diet of propaganda against the new Nato missiles, the "warmonger" Reagan administration and in praise of the peace movement in West Germany.

All this would probably have had little effect—such is the East Germans' faith in their official media—if the basic facts had not been reported on West German television and radio which reach most parts of the country.

The news struck at a fear which is as deep among East Germans as it is among West Germans—the fear of another war.

"They were always fairly sure the Russians did not want another war, they know how terribly they had suffered during the last one," a Western observer says.

"They used to be sure the Americans would never start one, but after all the talk in Washington they are no longer so sure. They are afraid."

The first stirrings came last autumn. All at once, peace and disarmament became a burning issue in the East German Protestant church, in the youth groups and the regional synods.

Apparently spontaneously, Herr Stephan Hermlin, a leading East German writer, organised an East-West writers' peace conference in East Berlin.

These developments apparently suited the Government's own ends. Herr Hermlin was able to hold his congress and Western TV and press were permitted to attend.

But the regime got more than it bargained for. The writers, like the young Christians, agreed that the missiles were bad. But then, they went on to argue, are the Soviet missiles not bad too? Why can't we do away with all nuclear weapons?

The young people began to fret at the militarization of East German life. They started to protest at the compulsory military training in schools, the endless military parades, and to demand the right for conscientious objectors to do social work instead of national service.

The movement came briefly but spectacularly into the open on February 13, the 37th anniversary of the British and American raids on Dresden, when in a couple of hours the beautiful city was destroyed and 300,000 people—four times more than at Hiroshima—were killed.

Some 5,600 young people armed with candles and flowers flocked to many parts of the country to the commemorative service in Dresden's Church of Our Lady.

Many of them wore white strips of cloth round their heads with the slogan "Make Peace Without Weapons" and arm patches with the words "Swords into Ploughshares".

Later they moved over to another church for a long and intense debate with their bishops and to sing, in English, "Give Peace a Chance" and "We Shall Overcome".

The Stasi—security police—were there trying to look inconspicuous in anoraks and jeans. But they did not intervene and the young people disappeared as quietly as they had come.

Little else is known about the movement, or "Peace efforts" as the East German clergy prefer to call it. It is wholly spontaneous, shapeless, leaderless and evidently many-faceted like that in the West.

It has no organization, no media to magnify it, and only a grapevine on which to communicate. The strength of the feeling is difficult to gauge in a country where involvement in such activities can wreck a person's whole future.

"It is still a minority" said one East German pastor who works with young people, "but it is building up". It is not clear how much is pure anti-nuclear sentiment and how much may simply be rebellion against authority or the Soviet Union. But the

pastor maintains that the driving force behind it—as in the West German peace movement—is a trend among young people towards more spiritual values.

As yet, the movement is taking communism as its word. The ubiquitous arm patches depict also the statue of a man beating a sword into a plough share which the Soviet Union placed outside the United Nations building in New York.

The Government says tirelessly it wants peace—so it can hardly argue with young people in Dresden commemorating the senselessness of war. It has always supported Eastern disarmament marches in the West; now the young people are talking of holding one of their own.

The Government is evidently in a spot. "It cannot crack down on people who demonstrate for peace, yet everything that is not controlled by it is automatically assumed to be hostile to the state," western observers said.

Perhaps the best measure of the movement's strength is the importance which the

authorities are attaching to it. The main tactic, for the moment, is to absorb it. Officially, peace is all the rage in East Berlin. The official Communist Youth Movement has held a Peace Week, and a peace-oriented political song festival with a dove as its symbol. It has been selling peace T-shirts, placards and postcards with the dove motif. One big Berlin bookstore has an exhibition of peace paintings in its window: naturally all the missiles are American.

There is even talk of the communist youth holding their own Easter march. But the message of the official "peace movement" is absolutely clear. "Peace," it insists, "must be armed."

The movement has also created a dilemma for the Protestant church which is its main breeding ground. (The small Catholic Church is not involved). It fears that the pacifists are stepping outside the narrow non-political area in which the church is allowed relative freedom and its future work will be jeopardised.

At the same time the Church is painfully conscious of having failed to take a stand against the Nazis and the Second World War and never wants to make that mistake again.

It received a clear warning of the dangers recently when a pastor who had drawn up an appeal against missiles and compulsory military service was hauled in by police and questioned for two days.

At present the clergy fear not so much the regime as the reaction in the West. "It is not a pro-Western movement. It is not a revolt against communism," says a West German pacifist leader with close contacts in the movement. "Although it is influenced by the West German peace movement, it is not some pan-Germanic awakening. They are telling us that the worst thing that can happen is that the West should get it wrong and play us up as dissidents or another Solidarity. Then the authorities will get nervous and crack down."

"We know the conditions we have to live in and the methods we can use," they say. "Support from the West can only harm us. We must fight on our own."

news for the Democrats may not be good. A Conservative mood which is anxious first and last to restore and protect the traditional values of society shows little sign of changing. A young couple who went to live in the country town of Portage, went from church to church to choose one in which to worship. They found the only two that were crowded were also the most fundamentalist.

There the full Conservative preaching—"this is what you shall believe, this is how you shall act, this is what you will vote for"—draws and holds congregations that overflow.

However much these people grumble at Mr Reagan's policies, this deep Conservatism seems strong enough to hold them in the end.

Farmers across the nation are enduring their fourth or fifth year of drought. But the federal subsidies to them, they remain convinced that Mr Reagan must be even more severe with others.

They are in no mood just now to look to the Democrats as an escape. But that only one here in the mid-West. Not even those who would like to return to the Democrats seem to believe that the party has either policies or men which are worth supporting.

The Democrats' back in Washington should remember those sandbags which President Reagan threw into the dykes. He could do just this year to save his party.

I sat down after a couple of days and decided that the

A civil servant who recently met Sir Kenneth Newman, now confirmed as the next commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, found the experience slightly daunting. Sir Kenneth was reticent, drawing his companion further and further out but never himself showing more than the tip of his own feelings or views.

There was neither the bonhomie and frankness which Sir David McNea, the present Commissioner and a man shy of public appearance, shows in private, nor the quick articulation of Sir Robert Mark, Sir David's predecessor.

Sir Kenneth's entry in *Who's Who* is as sparse as his police conversation, although at the same time utterly precise. His age is not indicated—he is now 55—nor are his children—two daughters—but his police service is filled under the forces for whom he has served: two years in the Palestine Police; 26 years with Scotland Yard where he rose to commander, and six years with the Royal Ulster Constabulary, rising from senior deputy chief constable to chief officer. He plays squash and rides.

Such brevity does little to fill out the detail of the man who one Home Office source said last week was "the only name in the frame" for the job of leading Britain's largest, most expensive and often most controversial police force. That, one suspects, is how Sir Kenneth would like it to be. Nicknames and anecdotes and personal details much beloved by journalists are less important than the job in hand.

In the 1980s that job is a highly professional one, and as commander of the Police College at Bramhill for the past three years Sir Kenneth has been one of the brightest and the best of Britain's policemen for future senior posts.

Over the past few days Sir Kenneth's attitudes on policing have been interpreted by both his period at Bramhill and his experience in Ulster. On the one hand he is seen as a supporter of the community policing camp and on the other as an expert in the



Sir Kenneth Newman: a man for all seasons

fight against terrorism and street disorder.

On past performance the reality is likely to be more even-handed. Sir Kenneth, son of a Sussex builder, rose in London to head both the community relations branch and re-organising police reaction to civil disorder in the 1960s. He was sceptical of responding to mugging scares by inundating areas with the Special Patrol Group, analysed police confrontations with blacks and tried to limit police responses to incidents so that situations were not inflamed by phalanxes of officers.

Such ideas might have prevented problems like Bristol last year but if riots did occur Sir Kenneth also had answers. The simple logic of his reorganization of training police for public disorder so that policemen were no longer acting as individuals but as unified groups is now being throughout Britain.

The ideas were unpopular at the time but Sir Kenneth is a man who perseveres: he took a law degree by getting up early to study. When he went to Ulster he also faced unpopularity as yet another Englishman foisted on the province by its Whitehall masters, but again he triumphed.

He took a staid, embittered and demoralized RUC and brought it out of the shadow of the Army presence and protection. His short, fit figure—he hardly drinks—could be found in the dead of night among patrols in Belfast's toughest streets.

While equipping his men with the latest computers and arms, he also worked to end the province's general lawlessness, appealing to the public to support its own police force. It was not always a happy courtship; the mistreatment of police prisoners brought harsh criticism, but in 1976 the number of people killed in Ulster stood at 297, compared with 113 in 1979.

It was in fact in Ulster where he came to be admired by his men, that Sir Kenneth first became a contender for the London job, another difficult and arduous post. Although officers such as Mr James Anderson, the controversial Greater Manchester chief constable, have often

publicly expressed their interest in London the Home Office's eyes have not wavered from Sir Kenneth.

Mr Merilyn Rees, fresh from Ulster himself as Home Secretary in 1977, clearly saw Sir Kenneth as successor to Sir Robert, but the needs of Ulster were greater than those of London at the time. With Sir David in place for at least five years, Sir Kenneth went to Bramhill.

It was there in the aftermath of the riots in Bristol in 1980 that Sir Kenneth said: "The police have certain objectives, one of them being to enforce the law; but it is a higher, superior objective to keep the peace." In Belfast marches might be policed

When he went to Ulster he faced unpopularity as yet another Englishman foisted on the province by its Whitehall masters, but again he triumphed

with a low presence but using video cameras and retrospective arrests, law enforcement remained.

This year at Bramhill, before the announcement of his new job, Sir Kenneth was looking at Scarman and trying to find the balanced policing he called for. Students were to start projects on inner-city problems and the college is building a complex to stimulate major operations such as public disorder.

That is the sort of approach the Home Office are looking for in London now, someone who will continue to tune the Metropolitan Police to all the demands of the 1980s, with imagination and logic. In Ulster Sir Kenneth spoke of the police combining 'toughness' with sensitivity. Sir Kenneth may prove to be neither a John Alderson nor a James Anderson, but a man for all seasons.

Stewart Tendler

It was true, how and last year not yet been done to Mr Dodin, initially exploit it politically. In change after last Israeli elections, Mr Ariel Sharon, defence minister, assumed responsibility of the territories. Mr Shimon Peres, was impressed by the article. Commentaries with polemical nature to publish it. The article increased the popularity of Mr Peres. Last November 1981, Colonel Milson became head of a new

One of the best-known landmarks on Saturday's university boat race course has become a bit of an embarrassment. Richmond Borough Council has just turned down plans which would have involved the demolition of Harrods' depository.

The building was purpose-built to hold customers' acquisitions, and surplus chattels in the days when people quite often had more than they knew what to do with. It was a splendid place with lifts capable of carrying Rolls-Royces into upper-storey storage. When Sir John Betjeman was taken on a tour he went, as it is now, into ecstasy.

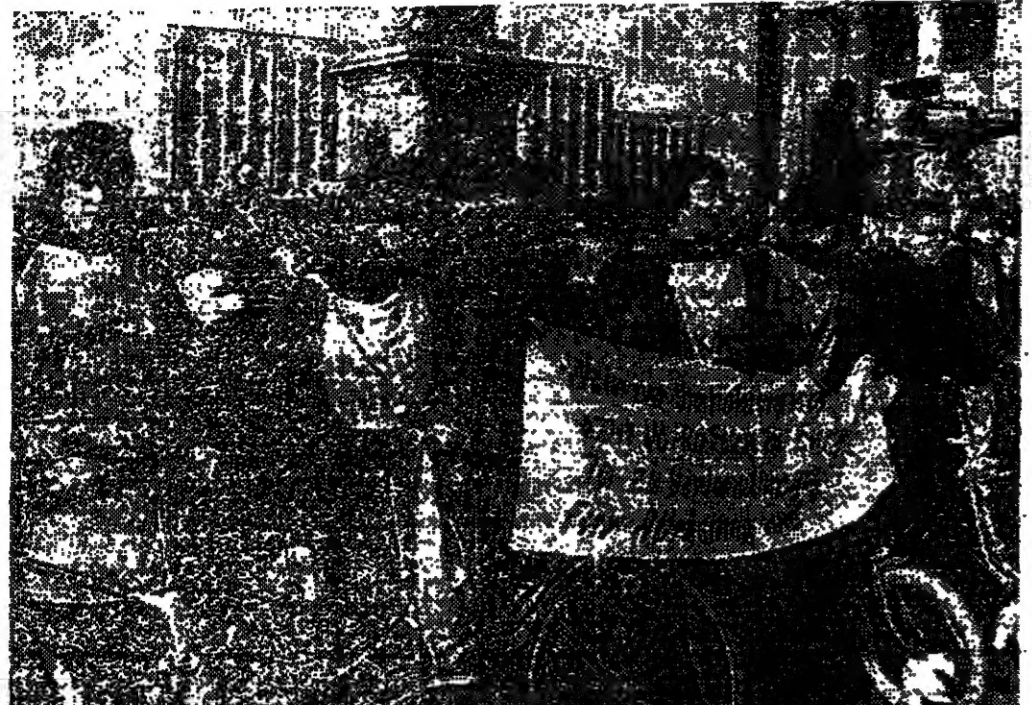
Harrods still uses the building for storing bulky items of surplus stock. The company's plans for the site were to use 188 flats and houses, and to use part of its nearby sports ground for new warehousing, workshops and offices. Local residents favoured redeveloping the depository site, but opposed building on the sports field. For the time being Richmond has rejected both schemes.

Athens did not get the Elgin Marbles back from the British Museum, but it did receive from British Leyland yesterday a brand-new double-decker bus on a trial basis. In the hope of proving that double-deckers are the answer to the Greek capital's chaotic traffic problem.

The demonstration bus, a model appropriately called

Doublet up

PHS



In Potsdam, young people take part in an organized demonstration against Nato's European-based nuclear forces; but East Germans are also beginning to criticise their own nuclear policy

Henry Fairlie

Reagan, still a star in the Mid-West

one now reads about Pittsburg is of the steady decline of the steel industry. I asked him if it would recover. He returned an expected "no".

Pittsburg must be very depressed, I said, and his answer was unexpected: "Not really. The impact on the city economy is not very great. Pittsburg has become a financial more than an industrial centre."

I talked later to another man from Pittsburg. He told the same story: "The steel industry is hurting, but it isn't hurting Pittsburg." To the right at the devastating floods about which one had casually read. The two rivers which meet at Fort Wayne, swollen by a quick thaw, had become one churning sea covering the town. Yet on the platform at 7.30 am were the commuters, waiting for their train.

I asked a ticket collector if he could bring me back a Fort Wayne newspaper. What did Fort Wayne, not network television news, think of its floods?

This was strong Reagan country at the last election, which he must hold for his party this year. He had visited the city to throw a sandbag or two for the cameras as it tried to re-inforce its dykes. In the editorial defending him for that visit. His descent on the

city, had stirred a lot of criticism in Fort Wayne. The defence in the editorial was not enthusiastic. It seemed odd in such a bastion of Mid-West Republicanism that so ordinary a visit by a President to what he later designated a disaster area should need to be so anxiously defended.

One incumbent Republican Congressman, a moderate, had been defeated by a State senator, a Conservative. He had been criticized by his opponent for not giving uncritical support to Mr Reagan. Was this, then, a signal? Hardly. Another moderate Republican Congressman elsewhere in the State had successfully fended off a challenge from a Conservative.

What is more, in the most hard-fought contest for a State office, the candidate mostly clearly relied on Mr Reagan's name, finished a poor third. If there was anything at all to be told from the tally of all the results, it was that support of Mr Reagan and his policies does not automatically guarantee success. Yet neither does it automatically spell defeat.

There is uneasiness in his party, and there is among the people in this vital mid-West region who are not over-look the fact that, at the

right moment this year, he may still throw a sandbag or two into his party's dykes, more effectively than he did at Fort Wayne. One has only to gaze at the prosperity of Chicago moreover, the hub of the mid-West and its bustling life, to wonder how deeply people actually are upset by the economic situation, unless it directly touches them.

They are worried, they grumble, some are scared. But there is also a mood out there that it might be much worse—especially under anyone else than Mr Reagan.

At the weekend I travelled on to Wisconsin which advertises itself as America's dairyland. It is a state with a very individual political tradition, with a strongly progressive streak to it. West Republicanism. At the last election it swung almost uniformly to Mr Reagan, only Madison, the state capital and the seat of a traditionally liberal university, held out.

How Wisconsin moves is really indicative of only its own mood. Yet its progressive tradition makes it an interesting state in which to try to judge the character and strength of the Conservatism on which Mr Reagan must be able to call again this year.

I sat down after a couple of days and decided that the

Two gentlemen try for that certain style

While the Institute of Directors decamped to the Albert Hall yesterday for their annual convention, men of style took over their Bell Mall headquarters. Jury of London secretaries had to choose between two finalists in the first Man of Style competition, sponsored by Fenton Menswear.

Gordon Bryant, a football-playing Ford Escort owner who has six suits and works in a bank in Ramsgate, was pitted against David Tewkesbury, who enjoys jogging and works in a car-hi business in Farnham, Surrey. Under the stern and stylish gaze of the Duke of Wellington and Leopold I, King of the Belgians, resplendent in full military dress on the Waterloo Room walls, the pair had to act out an embarrassing charade with a Manuel-like waiter in a make-believe restaurant.

The crucial test of style was how to cope with the suggestion that they should buy a bottle of wine they could not afford. Bryant sent his back on the pretence that he did not like the taste. Tewkesbury proposed to leave his watch as security. The Iron Duke and Leopold did not seem impressed.

Tewkesbury stood out valiantly against all the normal rules of good manners, by ignoring his actress-companion's request for champagne or Nuits St Georges, ordering instead some cheap still white. Manuel, meanwhile, con-

tinued in fine style: "We gotta red, and we gotta white. Have you got a bottle-opener?"

Bryant was declared the winner and given the gold cup, only to have it unceremoniously snatched away after protests from the jury. Finally both shared the prize money, and Tewkesbury went home with the cup.

Unkind cut?

In a show of solidarity with President Reagan, the Poles and the Afghans, the EEC finance ministers have agreed to restrict imports of caviare to 75 per cent of the 1980 total.

To add to the grim confrontational news, it will be equally difficult to purchase Russian king crab, tinned salmon, rofringers, alarm clocks, and ambergris. The restrictions will cut EEC imports from the Soviet Union by a crippling 1 per cent.

The Allington Court Gymnasium in London has revoked the membership of several body builders. The reason given was that they took up too much space.

Nostalgic note

When Robert Cohen performs with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Festival Hall tomorrow he will, at the age of only 22, be celebrating the tenth anniversary of his debut there. He still has, but of course no longer plays, the three-quarter size cello with which he made his first appearance.

Cohen will play the work, the Elgar cello concerto, alongside

THE TIMES DIARY



To see the pheasants strutting about the north Hampshire fields like farmyard chickens, safe from legal pursuit for another six months, new

would not think that they are close relatives to many of the world's most endangered species. Yet the justification for an exhibition by leading wildlife artists at the Gladson Gallery, Harborne, Tarrant, near Andover, is that of 43 pheasant species, a third are under threat of

extinction. Things are little better for some of the other galliformes, which include francolins, curassows and megapodes as well as wild turkeys.

While it used to be "up goes a guinea, down goes a shilling, down goes a half-crown," a PHSt calculates that nowadays it costs £10 to put a pheasant over the guns. Cartridges are 8p each, and last season in Hampshire the birds were £3 a brace, so even the most carefully conserved pheasants are not the bargain they were.

the conductor, Norman del Mar, with whom he made his recording debut. The record still sells well, but it is the first time he has played the concerto on the South Bank.

Red line day

This weekend is likely to see the last reunion of surviving members of the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (the 93rd), the "thin red line" who fought the Malayan campaign of 1941-42. They will be joined at Stirling Castle by some of the Royal Marines who joined with them in the defence of Singapore after the sinking of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse, and who were immediately nicknamed the Plymouth Argyle.

Colonel David Boyle, who is organizing the reunion, tells me

Minder

The Kokalsky ceramics factory in the Soviet Lithuanian city of Kaunas may lead the world in having an agony aunt on the payroll. *Pravda*, reporting on Woman's Day about the facilities

the factory has installed for the benefit of women night-workers, lists among them not only hairdressing salons, food shops and shoe-repairers but also a psychology clinic where workers can go to "unburden their minds".

Village insights

Though the Indian government is notoriously sensitive about foreign film crews, Prafulla Mohanti was allowed exceptional freedom when making his programme *My Village, My Life*, which is to be screened on BBC2 tomorrow night. Mohanti made the film in his native village of Nampur in the impoverished state of Orissa, and because of his personal involvement, the Indian government gave up its usual insistence on an official liaison officer being attached to the crew to watch what they were doing.

Mohanti was brought up in the village, and still returns there for several months each year, although he has had a successful career as a writer since coming to Britain, originally as a town planner for the Greater London Council.

Mohanti's book of the same title as the television film has now sold 35,000 copies here, is translated into Norwegian and Danish and is in its second edition in Japanese. Bill Morton, executive producer for BBC television, has himself filmed in Indian villages but says he has never before had the feeling of giving such a unique insight into what life is really like for the 600 million who live in the country's 500,000 villages. He says: "The

difference was that Prafulla was talking in front of the cameras with people who do not have any idea what film is, but who he has known since he was a little boy."

Deputy Sheriff James Galway flies into London this week, flashing his badge of office presented to him by the law enforcement authorities of Prince George's county in Maryland. The badge comes free with the job, which could require the perpetrator flautist to turn out in a midnight posse. But I gather Galway was made to pay for his own Stetson which he purchased at a tourist shop after a recording session at Nashville, Tennessee.

Declared interest

A woman who has been daughter, wife, and mother-in-law to MPs, and also an MP herself is well placed to write about the role of women in political life. One of the more risqué anecdotes Lady Fisher, wife of Sir Nigel Tory MP for Kingston-upon-Thames, will include in her book is one named Labour member's ribald response to her request for a pairing at the House one night.

Doubling up

Athens did not get the Elgin Marbles back from the British Museum, but it did receive from British Leyland yesterday a brand-new double-decker bus on a trial basis. In the hope of proving that double-deckers are the answer to the Greek capital's chaotic traffic problem.

The demonstration bus, a model appropriately called

552 من الاموال



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

MR WHITELAW AT BAY

This is the most critical week that Mr Whitelaw has faced in his time as Home Secretary — not the most critical for the country, but the week in which his personal political standing is put to the most severe test. There is much anxiety in the country over the rise in crime and much dissatisfaction within the Conservative Party over his performance in dealing with it. On Monday evening he underwent the scrutiny of the Conservative backbench Home Affairs Committee, and came through it with success. Today there is to be a debate in the House of Commons on the increase in crime and tomorrow in the Commons on an Opposition motion on law and order. That Labour decided to devote one of its supply days to a topic that is normally regarded as being of more political value to the Conservatives is an indication of how beleaguered Mr Whitelaw looked to be on this issue.

The public has been alarmed about the crime rate for some time. The alarm has been fanned by two recent developments. One was the publication of the statistics for serious offences in England and Wales and the other was the demand from the Police Federation for the restoration of capital punishment. This demand has stimulated the appearance on the order paper of the House of Commons of a motion that has already been signed by more than 90 Conservative backbenchers, although there is no prospect of a majority of MPs in this Parliament voting to bring back the death penalty.

There is always scope for argument about the precise significance of crime statistics, because they tend by their very nature to be unreliable indicators. That applies particularly to the less serious offences, where not

every crime that is committed is reported. The latest criminal statistics are not in themselves conclusive. Although the increase of ten per cent in serious offences in England and Wales in 1981 was high, the rate of increase was not so high as in either 1974 or 1977. Much of the change can be attributed to the increases in theft and the handling of stolen goods. The number of murders and sexual offences has even fallen.

The figures need to be kept in proportion, but they are not to be explained away. Serious crime has been rising at a disturbing rate for some time. That is evident both from the statistics and from common observation. Public alarm, particularly over crimes of violence, has out-run even that rate of increase. This is not something that exists only in the fevered imagination of politicians, journalists and broadcasters. These are social and political facts to which any government is bound to respond.

But how should the Home Secretary respond? There is no cause for panic, partly because the figures do not warrant it, but even more because this is a field in which sudden dramatic decisions are usually of less value than the steady thrust of a consistent policy. The first element of that policy should be to maintain support for the police. If criminals are not caught they cannot be sentenced. This Government has in fact a good record in improving police pay and equipment, which are vital to recruitment. Mr Whitelaw is also intending to introduce changes in the law governing police procedure, going beyond the Criminal Justice Bill now before Parliament.

The other critical element in a coherent policy on law and order is sentencing. If convicted criminals are not

given an appropriate sentence it is no deterrent to them and others and a positive discouragement to the police. But criticism here comes from two different quarters. There are those who complain that excessive sentences have led to overcrowded prisons, and others who maintain that hardened criminals are being treated too leniently. In fact the two criticisms are not contradictory, so long as one appreciates that they refer to different categories of offender.

It is necessary to reduce the number of non-violent, relatively minor criminals in prison if serious offenders are to be kept in conditions that are both humane and prevent prison becoming a university of crime. This Government has done something, though not enough, to encourage shorter sentencing — though one must always acknowledge that sentences are very properly awarded by the courts and not by any minister. It has also a reasonable record in largely preserving the prison building programme when all about it was being cut.

Mr Whitelaw should not then be short of ammunition in his own defence. The reasonable tone, which irritates many of his critics, is a necessary quality in a Home Secretary who is to reassure the disparate elements in a troubled society. The personalizing of the attacks upon him has also strengthened his position. Some Conservative backbenchers who have not previously been among his admirers now believe that it would be folly to sacrifice him on the altar of law and order. But while his continuation in office seems assured, the task that he now faces is to win the confidence of an agitated party and uneasy public for a policy that must be firm but need not be dramatic.

THE NATIVES ARE RESTLESS

In May 1981 an article appeared in *Commentary*, the influential American Jewish magazine, arguing that Israel had been unimaginative in allowing supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization to monopolize the political leadership of the population in the occupied territories. The author, Professor Menachem Milson, head of the Institute of Asian and African Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, asserted that many Palestinians did not in fact support the PLO but lacked leadership, and that the Israeli authorities had made very little effort to encourage the emergence of new leaders.

Professor Milson was perhaps being unduly modest, for he had himself laid the foundations of a more adventurous policy in 1978, when he was adviser on Arab affairs to the military commander of the occupied territories. It was with his encouragement that Mr Mustafa Doudin, a former Jordanian minister, founded the Hebron Village Association, through which Arab villages obtained money from the Israeli authorities for development projects.

It was true, however, that until last year not very much had been done to follow up Mr Doudin's initiative and to explore after last summer's Israeli elections, when General Ariel Sharon became defence minister and so assumed responsibility for the government of the occupied territories. Mr Sharon, it seems, was impressed by the *Commentary* article. (For academics with political ambitions *Commentary* is a good place to publish: it was also with an article there that Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick caught the eye of Governor Reagan.)

Last November Professor Milson became the first head of a new "civilian"

administration in the West Bank, the declared purpose of which was to involve more Arabs in the day-to-day running of the administration and so to prepare them for the application of autonomy as envisaged in the Camp David accords. Other village leagues were formed, in emulation of the Hebron one, with strong encouragement — not to say pressure — from the Israeli administration, and in the teeth of intimidation from the PLO, now joined by Jordan.

Village politics in any country tend to be apolitical in the national sense and to concentrate on parish pump issues which put a premium on a working relationship with higher authority, whatever its political colour. That does not mean that villagers are necessarily without opinions on national issues, but they find it more appropriate (and sometimes safer) to voice such opinions when gathered together in towns and universities. Palestine in that respect is no different from any other country, and Professor Milson, for all his orientalist erudition, is no different from previous colonial governors in many parts of the world: dismissive and when necessary repressive towards urban and educated groups voicing nationalist demands, paternalist towards peaceful village elders, and on the look-out for interlocuteurs valables.

Such policies have seldom if ever been successful in the long run because the only really valid interlocutors — the ones capable of mobilising popular support for a political programme — are almost invariably those saying what the colonial governor does not want to hear. The village elders may be good at settling local disputes over marriage portions or grazing rights, but they tend to cut a sorry figure when sent

in by the colonial power to bat against nationalists on a political wicket. (Who now remembers Mr Ian Smith's Council of Chiefs?)

The present unrest on the West Bank has been directly provoked by Mr Milson's policies. He thinks that affects to think, in an interview with the *Guardian* yesterday — that this is because "the PLO, who are afraid they are losing their hold on the population, are pushing things to a head". That proposition is, to say the least, unproven.

What is certainly true is that virtually all politically aware Palestinians on the West Bank are intensely suspicious of the new "civilian" administration because they see it as a step away from straightforward military occupation arising from a state of war and towards a permanent annexation in pursuance of Israel's claim to sovereignty — which is also how both Mr Begin and the Palestinians have tended to interpret the "autonomy" proposed as a five-year transitional solution by the Camp David accords.

The Egyptian interpretation, that autonomy would be a transitional stage towards an independent Palestinian state, finds few takers on the West Bank because people there can see that Israel would retain ultimate control and that Israel has no intention of allowing an independent state to emerge.

For the inhabitants of the West Bank it is Hobson's choice. "Civilian" or military administration, autonomy or no autonomy, they face continued Israeli rule and expanding Israeli colonization of their land. If the world wishes them to abstain from violence, it has to find a way of offering them a better choice than that.

Doubts on 'police accountability'

From the Chief Constable of Manchester

Sir, In the BBC 1 Question Time programme on March 18 a brief discussion took place on my recent proposal for the appointment of non-political members to oversee local police administration.

I was disappointed by it on two important counts. First, not a single contributor had a proper grasp of the essential point of my argument, which could be due to poor articulation on my part or misunderstanding through the press. And second, to my dismay, all the panelists, without exception, demonstrated a quite abysmal lack of detailed knowledge of the real workings of our existing police committee structure.

However, one rather frightening matter clearly emerged. Mr Ken Livingstone, Leader of the Greater London Council, stated very forcibly that "police accountability" for him means direct political control of all police operations.

He used as an example the "swamp" tactics in London last year and said, in effect, that under his declared policy large numbers of police officers would not be allowed to enter an area to clear street crime without the express approval of the Greater London Council. Even members of the studio audience appeared to balk at this particular comment.

It is precisely because of Ken Livingstone's declared intention, precisely because of similar statements expressed elsewhere, and precisely because I fear the worst for the future, that I recommended so forcibly the need for police to be accountable to a more independent and balanced body of people with no political axe to grind and without loss of real community involvement.

Yours faithfully,
J. ANDERTON,
Chief Constable,
P.O. Box 22 (S.West P.D.O.),
Chester House,
Boyer Street,
Manchester,
March 19.

From Mr G. V. Harries

Sir, In your news reports, and those of the BBC, the phrase "police and civilians" appears from time to time. This is convenient but misleading. Ought we not to remind ourselves that the police are citizens like everyone else and that in general they are subject to the same law as the rest of the community?

In the words of the Royal Commission on Police Powers and Procedure (1929), "the police of this country have never been recognized as having no greater power in protecting the law than the ordinary citizen has."

Yours truly,
G. V. HARRIES,
Rokeby,
Badgeworth Lane,
Badgeworth,
Cheltenham,
March 21.

Race and crime

From the Bishop of Willesden

Sir, By reminding us that Asians and blacks are far more susceptible than whites to racial attacks the AUEW (TASS) General Secretary (March 16) provided a response to Ronald Butt's article of March 18. It is no doubt hoped that the release of mugging statistics in ethnic categories will assist effective action over this problem.

I submit that a sensitive and compassionate nation has other, more basic obligations as well; for example, to realize what it must feel like to belong to the black minority, every member of which stands out clearly whenever he or she goes on to the streets.

Those whom Ronald Butt styles as race-relations pressure groups recognize an obligation to value rather than coldly tolerate the newcomers in our midst. Many are descended from those whom our forefathers caused to be carried across the Atlantic and sold, two centuries ago.

A change of attitude may take time and involve pain for us in the process. Those who recognize this obligation cannot be typecast into one mould. This correspondent's friends would have difficulty in describing him as other than quietly conservative.

Yours faithfully,
HEWLETT WILLESSEN,
Chairman,
Community and Race Relations Unit Board,
British Council of Churches,
173 Willesden Lane, NW6,
March 19.

Film cassette piracy

From Mr R. A. B. Cotterell

Sir, Mr Winner (March 18) has obviously not read that neglected masterpiece of English literature, Lord Denning's *Pirate King* judgment in *Rank Film Distributors and others v Video Information Centre and others*. The Copyright Act provides that a copyright owner is entitled to damages equivalent to the depreciation caused by infringement of the value of a copyright, and also, because all illegal copies are held to be the property of the copyright owner, to the total of the value of such copies if they have been sold.

As the last probably prevents a pirate making any profit, one such action should suffice to put any pirate out of business. Yours faithfully,
R. A. B. COTTERELL,
25 Crosby Row,
The Borough, SE1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr Prior's plan for Ulster Assembly

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton, Pavilion (Conservative)

Sir, Your leading article (March 22) on Mr Prior's proposed Assembly for Ulster overlooks a fundamental issue.

The founders of Ulster Unionism, Carson and Craig did not want devolved government. They wanted to play their part at Westminster along with representatives from the rest of the Kingdom. It was the British Government which imposed Stormont in the hope that Dublin and Belfast would eventually co-operate in a Council of All Ireland.

The result was that the real political leaders of Ulster remained at Stormont while MPs who came to Westminster, though often personally distinguished, had little political influence. None of them ever sat in a British Cabinet. Ulster was thus deprived of a natural goal for political ambition and denied the wider and more tolerant horizons which could have followed from taking part in the high affairs of British politics. With Stormont as a political focus, Ulster politics inevitably became increasingly parochial and sectarian differences were correspondingly polarised.

Palestinian homeland

From the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Sir, Reading the advertisement published in *The Times* of March 16 under the title "Peace in the Middle East" one cannot help but remember Arnold Toynbee's wise words:

Right and wrong are the same in Palestine as anywhere else. What is peculiar about the Palestine conflict is that the world has listened to the party that has committed the offence and has turned a deaf ear to the victims.

From the terms of their advertisement it is clear that the Vedanta Movement, like so many others before them, have been listening only to "the party that has committed the offence". That has led them into expressing views that are both unjust and ill-founded. They have lent themselves to a campaign which Israeli and Zionist propagandists are carrying on at the present time, to deceive public opinion into accepting that Jordan is the Palestinian homeland and hence that there is no case for Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza and for the establishment of a Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

The advertisement invites the Palestinians to accept a version of history which is, to say the least, tendentious.

At the time when the League of Nations issued its Mandate, the territories east and west of the Jordan were administered separately for many centuries. Throughout the period of Ottoman rule Jordan was part of the vilayet (province) of Syria. Palestine was divided into three sanjaks (districts), one (Jerusalem) administered directly from Istanbul, two attached to Beirut. As Norman Bentwich (the Jewish lawyer who served as Attorney-General in Palestine during the Mandate) observed in his book, *Palestine*:

The underlying given during the war was the Arabs as to the autonomous Arab region included the territory (east of the Jordan), and it

Saving a Stubbs for the nation

From Mr Martin Butlin

Sir, As the expert adviser whose successful appeal to the Export Reviewing Committee led to the withholding of the export licence for George Stubbs's "Gimcrack" with John Fratt up on Newmarket Heath, I cannot let pass Julian Pritchard's letter in your issue of March 22. That I was successful in my application, and that the National Heritage Memorial Fund and the Victoria and Albert Museum are both prepared to make large contributions towards the purchase of the picture, is perhaps an answer enough. However, certain points in Mr Pritchard's letter possibly deserve more specific treatment.

Mr Pritchard suggests that the reputation of Stubbs in this country is somehow exceptional. The very fact that the price of £750,000 has been offered by a private American collector gives the lie to this suggestion. There is also a considerable interest in Stubbs on the Continent. For instance, the authorities of the Louvre have made known their interest in putting on a large-scale exhibition of the artist's work.

Mr Pritchard devotes a whole paragraph to what he sees as the ineptitude of Stubbs's composition. In fact the close juxtaposition of forms to which he takes exception is a deliberate and positive feature of Stubbs's painting. Many of Stubbs's most successful compositions play games, as it were, with such juxtapositions. On very rare occasions these games fail to come off, but in this picture anyone with an eye for classical composition must surely see that Stubbs has created a masterpiece of design.

Mr Pritchard's letter reflects, however, a more general view which, still seems common in some quarters, that a picture of a horse is necessarily inferior to a picture of some more elevated subject. Over the years Stubbs has gradually become acceptable to the art establishment, largely on the basis of those exceptional pictures that go beyond conventional sporting art to cover a wider range of subjects, as for instance in the series of pictures of mares and foals or the more elaborate compositions involving Gimcrack racing at Newmarket.

But it is Stubbs's very achievement in the well-worn tradition of the horse portrait that makes this particular picture so exceptional. He has taken an accepted genre and transformed it into a masterpiece and it is for this reason that nothing must stand in the way of the Fitzwilliam Museum's gallant attempt to save the picture for the nation.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BUTLIN,
Keeper of the Historic British Collection,
Tate Gallery,
Millbank, SW1,
March 22.

A great reformer

From Bishop Norman Sargant

Sir, May I draw your attention and the attention of your readers, who may come to London for the festival of India and deplore the fact, that there is no memorial in this city to one of India's most illustrious sons, the great reformer Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833).

He stayed in London from 1831 to 1833 to give evidence before a select committee of Parliament and to appear before the Privy Council on such important matters as the renewal of the East India Company's charter and the abolition of *Sati* or widow-burning. He lived for most of this time at 48 (renumbered 49) Bedford Square as the guest of the Hare family, well known to him in Calcutta and who were present at his death in Bristol on September 27, 1833.

The place of his death here is commemorated at Purdown Hospital and that of his burial at Arncliffe Vale cemetery. Could there not also be some commemoration of his valuable labours in London, if possible at Bedford Square; too late perhaps for the festival but in time for the 150th anniversary of his death?

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN SARGANT,
Honorary archivist,
Bristol Cathedral,
College Green, Bristol,
March 18.

Paper chase

From Mr G. D. Dew

Sir, I can assure Miss Holbrook (March 16) that it doesn't make the slightest difference. Today I received an amended notice of coding dated the day after the Budget giving me the 1981-82 married allowance of £2,145.

Yours faithfully,
G. D. DEW,
8 Melcham Gardens,
Twickenham,
Middlesex,
March 16.

Winning smile

From Mr L. Murphy

Sir, Your picture today (March 19) of Dr Runcie receiving such a great smile from a patient at St Joseph's Hospice shed its own glow over an otherwise sombre morning. Both priest and patient were a moving testament to Christian love in action.

There is an example here for all of us to emulate not least those people who vilified Dr Runcie in his Liverpool church.

Yours faithfully,
LARRY MURPHY,
10 Hove Park Way,
Hove,
East Sussex,
March 19.

Mental health

From Mr Malcolm Hurwitz

Sir, The concerted attack in your letters column (March 4, 12 and 13) on clause 38 (iii) of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill is unduly alarmist. All your correspondents paint a disturbing picture of the consequences of requiring a patient's psychiatrist to obtain a second opinion for drug treatment if the patient is capable of giving consent but is unwilling to do so.

Professor Gunn and his colleagues, like Mr John Pringle, take the extreme cases of a gravely disturbed patient or a doctor's "sickest patients" and suggest that the doctor could "lose control" or that "a patient will get no treatment should the patient's consultant psychiatrist and the medical commissioner

disagree". The weakness of the logic of this argument itself suggests that it would be an advantage to have a check on psychiatric practice.

None of your correspondents realises that a disagreement between two psychiatrists in itself casts doubts upon the suitability of the proposed treatment in a particular case. A further overstatement of their argument is to assume that such a disagreement would lead to "no treatment" and turning hospitals into prisons; but it is surely more reasonable to assume that a discussion between two doctors might well result in a different, but agreed, treatment.

Mental health review tribunals have always had the power to discharge certain patients from hospital when their consultants have been unwilling to do so. If a

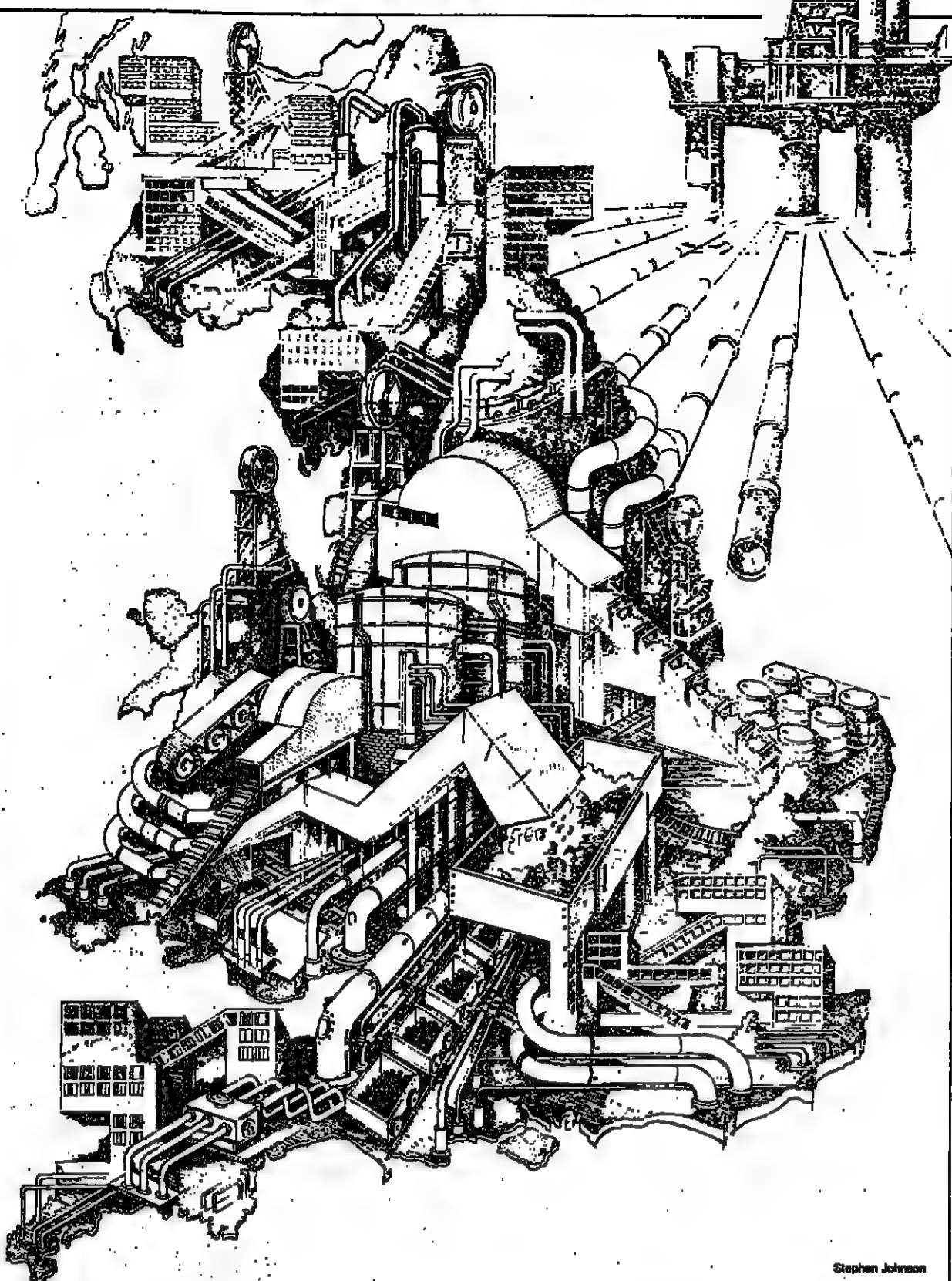
doctor's judgment in such matters can be reviewed by a tribunal only one of whose members is a psychiatrist, it is a lesser invasion of his clinical judgment for it to be confirmed or denied by a fellow professional in the case of a particular treatment.

The vast majority of cases will be straightforward and clear-cut, and if this is so the exceptional cases cannot be used to deprive patients of the dignity of having a say in their own treatment. The time has passed when the word of any expert must be accepted unquestioningly.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM HURWITZ,
(Legal Member, Mental Health Review Tribunal),
91 South Road,
Southall,
Middlesex,
March 15.

World oil supplies are in disarray. Britain is cushioned to some degree because of an abundance of resources. Yet this mixture of coal, oil, gas and nuclear reserves has not cured our economic ills. We look at the policies, promise and the problems that lie ahead.

ENERGY



The long-term policy of "economic pricing" of energy still holds, however, and is arguably the only sensible course that can be adopted, but the issue is confused by the fact that one reason for the relatively high costs in Britain is the inefficiency of some of its major nationalized energy corporations. The Government's decision to back away from a confrontation with the miners over plans to close down heavily loss-making pits last year underlines that this nettle has still not been thoroughly grasped.

An important public test of Britain's attitude to its future energy supplies will come with the public inquiry into the Central Electricity Generating Board's plans to build its first pressurized water nuclear reactor at Sizewell, in Suffolk. The inquiry, which is scheduled to open in January next year, will be a crucial stage in determining whether this country is willing to opt for a major expansion of nuclear power — and if so, in what form and at what price.

The pressurized water reactor (PWR) is American-designed, and of a type similar to that involved in the accident at Three Mile Island nearly three years ago. Just as much attention, however, is expected to be trained on whether Britain actually needs nuclear power on the scale that the electricity supply industry says is required. The industry has been working on the basis that it plans to build 15 megawatts of new nuclear generating capacity over a period of 10 years.

But the forecasts of future demand for electricity made by the CEBG have erred consistently on the high side, and have had to be downgraded. The industry argues that nuclear power is still the cheapest method of generating electricity (though the statistics are a matter of dispute), and sees it as one means of increasing its efficiency and reducing its dependence on expensive British coal. But critics say that the industry already has a higher margin of spare capacity — 28 per cent — than it needs. The outcome of the debate will be critical to how Britain produces its energy at the end of the century, when North Sea oil — on present projections —

will be starting to decline. Three years ago nuclear power seemed to have strong justification on the grounds of energy need. Now, partly thanks to Opec, it is not so clear-cut. In the light of the fall in energy demand over the past three years, the Department of Energy is once again downgrading its forecasts of the future energy balance. The forecasts it made in 1979 envisaged energy demand rising from what was then 355.9 to between 445 and 510 million tonnes of coal equivalent by 2000.

Important consequences

This would be met by coal (137 million to 155 million tonnes), gas (62 million to 65 million tonnes), oil (100 million tonnes), nuclear and hydro power (88 million to 95 million tonnes) and imports (35 million to 120 million tonnes). In 1980, ahead of the public inquiry into the Coal Board's controversial plans to start open-cast mining operations in the Vale of Belvoir, plans on which the Government's verdict is still awaited, the projections were downgraded showing a demand figure of around 460 million tonnes of coal equivalent by 2000. The latest computer simulations are believed to be showing that the demand in 2000 will be no more than 350 to 370 million tonnes of coal equivalent, in other words little more than the actual figure in 1979.

The projections, if confirmed, will have important consequences. On the plus side they make it virtually certain that Britain will continue to be self-sufficient in conventional energy until the next century, without need to have recourse to expensive imports. But they also cast a doubt not only over the nuclear expansion plans, but over the future of the coal industry, which may now not be required to produce more than it does at the moment. The Coal Board itself is still basing its plans on the assumption that demand for coal will rise, even though, thanks to the recession, it cannot sell all the coal that it produces.

Jonathan Davis
Energy Correspondent

Suddenly the tables are being turned on all sides in the energy debate. With oil prices falling, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in uncharacteristic and disorderly retreat and energy demand all over the world sharply down, it is no longer realistic — or fashionable — to talk of the new, permanent energy crisis.

Such grim forebodings were commonplace during the second great oil price "shock" in 1978-80, and yet, less than two years later, such has been the turnaround in the balance of power between energy producers and energy consumers that the International Energy Agency now feels compelled to warn the West against the dangers of energy complacency. By the same token, President Reagan's administration in the United States is busy rapidly dismantling the great multi-million dollar programme of synthetic fuel development that President Carter intended would free the world from its reliance on conventional energy supplies.

In the short-term the outlook on the energy front is undoubtedly much more encouraging than nearly anyone could have foreseen even 18 months ago. Major strategic decisions about the balance of both future energy demand and energy supplies have still to be taken, but the advantage now is that these decisions can be — or at least should be — taken in a more rational and unpressured climate than was possible in the turbulent months that followed the overthrow of the Shah of Iran at the end of 1978.

The crucial question now, for Britain as for the rest of the industrialized world, is the extent to which the lessons of the two 1970s oil "crises" have been learnt. The cost of the two crises, in the form of economic recession, declining living standards, and unemployment that now exceeds 30 million people in OECD countries, has been appalling. It would be compounding the folly if the lessons of the experience were now to be forgotten.

There are some encouraging signs that the world is changing its energy habits. The fall in demand over the last two years has been sharper than it would have been if the traditional re-

lationships between economic growth and energy demand (the so-called "energy coefficient") still persisted. In the UK consumption has fallen from 355,900,000 tonnes to 316 million tonnes of coal equivalent in the last two years to a drop of 11.2 per cent. This holds out the hope that there has been a significant degree of lasting energy conservation, as well as switching from high-priced oil to other forms of fuel.

Most academic and industry energy economists believe that this is, in fact, now happening on a significant scale for the first time. But they emphasize that the proof will not become clear until economic activity begins to pick up again in earnest. Energy conservation, now as much as when oil prices were quadrupling in the space of 18 months, is still the cheapest and most efficient way to secure energy supplies.

The drawback is that high energy prices are the single most effective means of stimulating energy conservation, and high energy prices — as the British Government discovered last year — are the source of enormous controversy and political opposition. Industrialists' complaints that for some key fuels such as gas and electricity they were paying more for their energy than their counterparts on the Continent, was a source of grave embarrassment to the Government for much of 1981.

Discount to large users

Key sectors of manufacturing industry, such as chemicals, steel and paper, pointed out that Britain was alone among western industrialized countries in being virtually self-sufficient in energy. Yet they, already stricken by the recession and the Government's tight monetary policies, were being made to pay for this apparent advantage at a time when they most needed help. The Government has since beaten something of a retreat on this front, telling British Gas, for example, to freeze industrial gas prices and urging the electricity industry to give discounts to large industrial users in return for interruptions of their supplies.

COAL: INDUSTRY'S SECURITY FOR THE FUTURE.

If you're planning the long term future of your company, you should plan it around a source of energy that's going to be around for some time, like coal. Britain has coal reserves which, based on present mining techniques and present levels of production, will last for at least another three hundred years. And, with the improvements in technology that will undoubtedly come during that time, the reserves will last very much longer.

Does your company have this security for the future? We are sure we don't have to remind you of the three words you can read in the newspapers almost any day of the week: Middle East crisis. We'll leave it to you to conjure up pictures of soaring oil prices, unreliable supplies and increasing light stock.

In fact, there is now no concrete argument for not installing coal fired boiler equipment, particularly if your company is planning to be around for some time. Maybe even in 300

years time. And isn't that important? **Coal: be prepared to be surprised**

There have been some very impressive advances in boiler technology and combustion equipment, as well as methods of coal and ash handling.

The whole operation may be very different from how you imagine.

It's extremely efficient. It's now possible to operate in excess of 80% thermal efficiency with modern coal fired plants, which makes coal firing both very economic and competitive.

It can be completely automatic with the modern coal and ash handling equipment now available. This permits coal fired boiler houses to be light, airy and clean.

And it's very up-to-date. Over the years extensive research and development programmes have been carried out. The most recent development is fluidised bed combustion.

This technique provides higher heat release rates, which means boiler sizes, and therefore capital costs, may be reduced.

It also means that a wider range of coal can be burned and, with combustion taking place at a temperature below the melting point of ash, boiler availability is greatly extended.

Companies that can see beyond the next twenty years. Many far-sighted companies are using coal fired boilers already.

Take Graham and Brown, wallpaper printers for example. Their

new boiler house (which is maintained in absolute pristine condition) has been very much the cornerstone of the company's expansion.

When planning the installation of the new boiler house other fuels were considered, but at the recommendation of their fuel supplier, Graham and Brown, continued with coal. As David Brown, Director, says "That is the business decision we shall all remember as being of great significance. Just on fuel savings alone we have calculated that in the first 3 years of operating the new boilers we saved £80,000."

This boiler house is truly modern and was purposely designed for coal firing. From fuel reception, no fuel is seen or handled and ash is transported away to a silo to await collection. With modern pneumatic handling of coal and ash this boiler house is very efficient and very clean.

Let us tell you more

The wide range of coal fired boiler plant and equipment is designed to meet every conceivable need, from power generating requirements to small units in commercial buildings.

In addition there is a nationwide network of coal distributors who are strategically situated to give advice and provide an efficient delivery service to industry.

If you would like one of our fuel engineers to visit and give you free, expert advice, contact the NCB Technical Service.

We will also give you information on the recent government grant scheme which provides up to 25% of the cost of switching from oil to coal-fired boilers. It's worth contacting us now. So that you can help your company to live later.

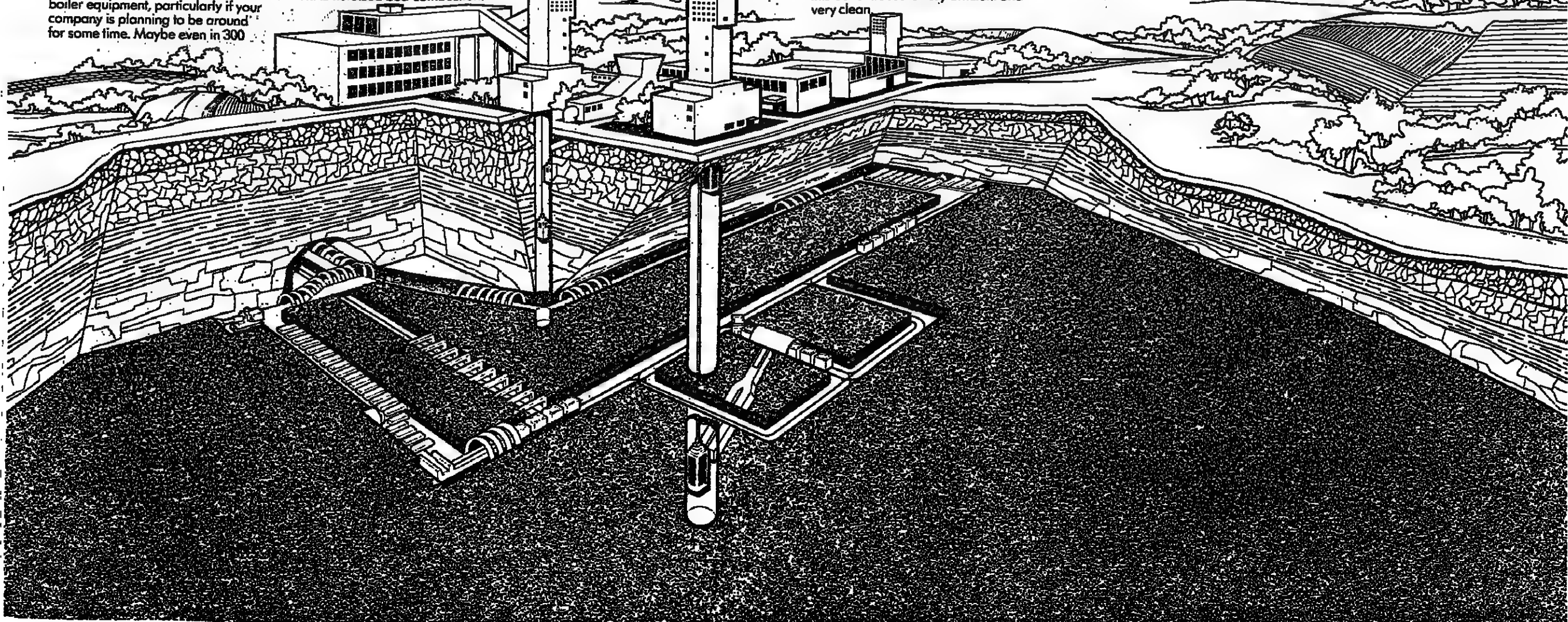
Send to: The National Coal Board, Technical Service Branch, Marketing Dept., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1A 7AB.

Name _____
Title _____
Company _____
Address _____

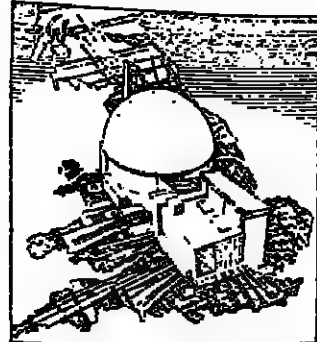
I would like some technical leaflets on modern industrial burning equipment. I would like one of your fuel engineers to visit my company.

We are considering installing new industrial boiler equipment. Please tell me more about the Government grant scheme.

NCB
COAL: BRITAIN'S ENERGY INSURANCE



Nuclear electricity Sizewell B: rumblings of discontent



combined heat and power stations. They would then make more efficient use of the fuel they use, by generating electricity and in addition by supplying heating to the locality from the hot water now discarded from the cooling system.

Soon after she took office, Mrs Thatcher committed the Government to a large expansion of the nuclear electricity programme based on the PWR as a matter of priority. Recently, the Department of Energy has shown clear signs of moderating the early enthusiasm.

Controversy over nuclear power seems to be increasing rather than waning, and the timing of the public inquiry could be politically awkward. The latest timetable, after its fourth amendment, could bring a decision on the PWR too close to the next general election for comfort.

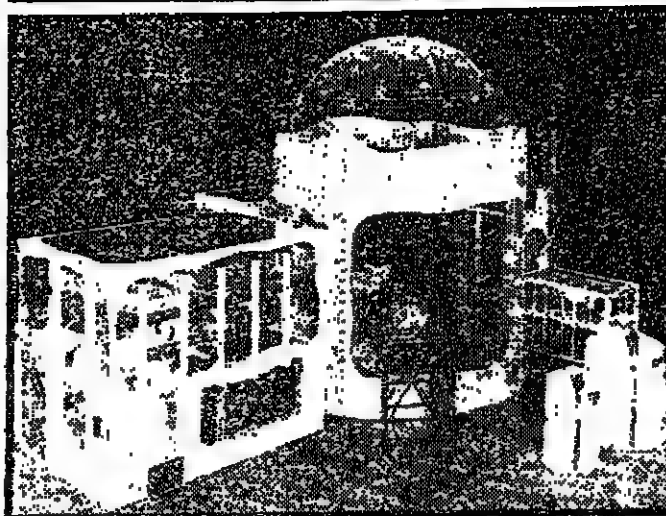
Initially a public inquiry was expected this summer, but postponements have pushed the date to January next year to allow more work on safety reports by the industry, the Atomic Energy Authority and by the licensing agency, the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate. A promise was made to Parliament that those documents would be available for analysis by objectors sufficiently ahead of the public inquiry to allow them to prepare a proper case.

It would be difficult to overstate the importance of that tribunal. Its outcome will have a fundamental influence on the pattern of Britain's energy supplies. Hence objectors to the PWR are not just questioning the wisdom of a rapid expansion of nuclear energy; they are challenging the assumptions on which the arguments in favour of atomic power are based.

The outlook for the coal industry is inextricably linked to this issue because more than 80 million tonnes of coal a year is used in electricity generation.

The CEGB's current policy is to cut the number of power stations from the present 130 to 50 over the next two decades.

Yet there is growing pressure for many of the smaller coal-fired power stations near urban and industrial areas to be converted to



Nuclear power has become a focus for controversy for a variety of reasons. But some of the criticisms aimed at the industry of long construction delays and latent faults in equipment, apply equally — if not more forcefully — to traditional fossil fuel projects and to many other engineering ventures of comparable scale.

The accident of the pressurized water reactor at Three Mile Island (above) in the USA is a financial disaster of unprecedented scale yet to be resolved, but it was prevented from becoming an environmental catastrophe. Even so, the

shadow of that incident still hangs over the industry, and will be in the minds of all the groups at the public inquiry for the first PWR in Britain, Sizewell B power station in Suffolk.

Many basic differences exist between the Three Mile Island system and the design proposed by the Central Electricity Generating Board for Britain. More safety arrangements must be built into the plant to satisfy the Government's Nuclear Installations Inspectorate. Millions of pounds have been spent on scale models (left) to explain exactly how a British PWR would operate.

dorsed on coming to office was a more rational looking programme of capital reinvestment prepared by the current CEGB chairman, Mr Glyn England. Even so, putting the scheme into practice has been delayed while the manufacturing side of the industry was restructured.

It is now under the management of a single company, the National Nuclear Corporation. Its major shareholders are the Government, 35 per cent administered through the UKAEA,

Nuclear Associates 35 per cent.

Since the PWR in question is a variation of the latest design of this family of reactors under construction in the United States, part of

the delay has been in establishing agreement between the manufacturer, the generating board and the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate on the modifications to be made for operations in Britain.

A weakening of Government resolve in the matter seems apparent in an unprecedented decision to make the CEGB pay for the cost of the public inquiry, even though it ranks easily in importance with the third London airport inquiry, the Vale of Belvoir inquiry, the Windscale inquiry or any of the major motorway hearings.

The ruling to make the CEGB pay is on the grounds that the proposals are of a discretionary nature and not part of mandatory government policy. Yet the Sizewell B hearing

is far broader than a trial of the merits of the PWR, either on its own safety and performance record or in comparison of the American system versus the latest British type of reactor. What the objectors will inevitably expose for examination is the efficacy of the complete nuclear fuel cycle, from the security of uranium supplies to the disposal of radioactive waste from spent nuclear fuel and the decommissioning of retired nuclear power stations.

There are questions about parts of the nuclear fuel cycle which clearly influence the viability of the civil nuclear industry, but for which there are yet no answers. So it is not surprising that one of the most fiercely disputed subjects in the nuclear controversy is the question of what exactly are the real costs of nuclear power? Perhaps understandably, the CEGB is not yet prepared to publish the basis on which it is calculating the costs to be attributed to generation of electricity by PWRs for fear of jeopardizing its case at an early stage.

Whatever its critics may say, the CEGB is beginning to show an increasing awareness of demands that it becomes more publicly accountable. Mr Glyn England said recently that the public inquiry procedure, originally established to determine the effects of a proposed project on the local community, is taking on new dimensions by investigating, in addition, the soundness of national policies underlying the project — a process for which the existing inquiry procedure may well not be suited.

That view may explain the support given by the CEGB to a campaign by some environmental and consumer groups for public funds for objectors to be represented equally with the proposers at a public inquiry.

Britain's present nuclear programme is founded on gas-cooled reactors. The first generation, the Magnox family of reactors began operation with the CEGB in 1962 with the start of the stations at Berkeley, Gloucestershire, and Bradwell Essex. There are nine Magnox stations.

Gas-cooled reactors

But the more relevant comparison with the PWR is the current type of advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR). Two AGRs are in operation, three more are due to be completed by the mid-1980s and two by the end of this decade.

Power stations built on AGRs have twin reactors, each providing 600 Megawatts (Mw), or 1200 Mw in total. A large part of the construction is a civil engineering job of making a prestressed concrete pressure vessel 15 ft thick to hold the reactor core, thus much of the work is done on site. Coolant gas pumped into the reactor emerges at about 650 degrees C to go through a heat exchanger before being re-used.

The PWR depends on a single vessel, with a lid fastened on the top by a ring of massive bolts. Water is pumped under pressure of 150 atmospheres (2,300 lb per square inch) through the core to produce temperatures of about 320 degrees C. One PWR reactor produces more than 1,100 Mw of electricity.

Both the PWR and AGR use fuel rods containing pellets made from uranium dioxide powder in which the amount of fissionable uranium-235 has been slightly enriched, to 2 per cent in the case of the AGR and 3 per cent for the PWR. About 113 tonnes of fuel are used in an AGR and 90 tonnes in a

PWR. About one-third of the PWR fuel is replaced each year.

Irradiated fuel is handled underwater from the time it leaves the reactor. It is stored in a pond at the power station for several months to allow much of the short-term radioactivity to dissipate. Then it is put in a flask for transport to the reprocessing plant of British Nuclear Fuels, formerly Windscale and renamed Sellafield.

Though the nuclear industry is perceived on a large scale by each country that commits itself to an atomic energy programme, it is nevertheless concentrated on serving one market: electricity generation. Yet the nuclear industry embraces a vast range of manufacturing and process operations, including mining and milling of ore, chemicals and chemical processing, electrical and mechanical engineering and special materials metallurgy.

The whole activity is really a conglomeration of industries with a particular strand of advanced science and technology, threatening to become a focus for attention tends to focus on the reactor and nuclear steam supply system of power stations because that accounts for up to 30 per cent of the capital cost of the plant.

Features of a fuel cycle

The factors governing the cost of the fuel tend to take a back seat in public debates. Yet an analysis tracing the fuel through the energy cycle shows why this industry is such a conglomeration.

In order of production, the uranium producers are the US, Canada, South Africa, Niger, Namibia, France and Australia. The extraction schemes are huge. High grade ores contain only a small percentage of uranium, and deposits of 0.4 per cent and less are being worked.

Contracts between customer and supplier, for example Britain and South Africa, are private deals. So the price of uranium is uncertain. The spot market is less than 20 per cent of the trade, and the current price is about \$23 per lb for yellowcake, the form in which uranium comes after the ore has been through the first stage of mineral processing.

But the fuel cycle equation is an intriguing one, because at the end of the operation the customer has a credit grade ores contain only a small percentage of uranium, and deposits of 0.4 per cent and less are being worked. Conversion to uranium hexafluoride to increase the proportion of fissionable uranium-235 to 3 per cent \$130 a unit. Design and fabrication of fuel elements \$140kg. Shipping spent fuel \$15kg. Reprocessing spent fuel \$270kg. Value of recovered plutonium \$32,000kg.

There is a high degree of interdependence between a specific nuclear steam system and the features of a fuel cycle, making it costly for a country to switch from one reactor type (and hence fuel cycle) to another.

The capital cost of a nuclear power plant is roughly one half of the cost of fuel cycle services and materials purchased during its lifetime. Fuel cycle investments are, therefore, a major consideration in switching between reactor types.

Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Exports Market for UK expertise

Rapid development of Britain's natural energy resources in the last decade has provided a wide range of opportunities for firms supplying equipment, services and skilled advice. What began as a number of unrelated companies venturing gingerly into unknown waters has been forged into a recognizable industry.

This has opened up export markets which have become of growing importance now the pace of North Sea exploration is slackening. Turnover last year of the 350 members of the Energy Industries Council was between £3,500m and £4,000m, with exports accounting for one-third.

Nor is this a complete picture, for other trade bodies, among them the Association of British Oceanic Industries and the British Marine Equipment Council, have members in offshore business. Mining equipment companies have their own organization, although the Energy Industries Council has a few members involved in coal.

The council's title — it was originally known as the Confederation of British Manufacturers of Petroleum Equipment — reflects awareness that products and services are used by various energy producers, not just the oil giants. Ronnie Cusis, the council's director-general, said: "Even the more exotic forms of energy, as they develop, will still require valves, flanges, and other things our members make".

But some areas are extremely difficult, with countries demanding that their own firms should be given a share in the market for supplies and services, a policy pursued by Britain at home. The answer in many cases is a joint venture with local industry.

Mr Cusis said he thought British exporters were now more competitive than in the past, helped partly by the fall in sterling, and prospects for exports were good. But the scale of investment required to build exploration rigs, or ships to lay undersea pipelines, was daunting.

That still left a big market for British-based firms, ranging from contracting, manufacturing, consultancy and providing finance and many other services, including transport and communi-

cations. Some specialist contractors number their staffs in tens rather than thousands.

Many members of the Energy Industries Council belong also to the Energy Business Centre, a private commercial operation to link suppliers with prospective buyers.

The industry is prepared to have a go," Mr Walter Drysdale, director of the centre, said. "When we organized a vendors' forum on behalf of Shell Exploration and Production (UK) in October, 500 companies attended, anxious to get into the business of supplying the oil and gas producers."

He expected expanding markets in Latin America, South East Asia and Australia. But he thought this country was not doing enough to encourage engineering students. "Design engineering offers huge opportunities," Mr Drysdale said. There was also a demand for qualified staff to help overseas countries train their own technical workforces.

Of investment, he said: "There is no problem on the money side, even for enormous projects, provided the right consortium is put together. The major factor is when will the world pull out of recession?"

Although those concerned prefer to talk of the energy industry, or the power industry, rather than use the narrow terms North Sea and offshore oil, it was the discoveries in those rough waters that gave British manufacturers and service companies their chance. To help them, the Government set up the Offshore Supplies Office.

During 1980 North Sea operators had placed orders totalling £2,400m, of which British firms obtained 71 per cent. The 1981 figures, which will be laid before Parliament in June, are expected to show some growth.

Mr John d'Ancona, director-general of the office, said: "We monitor all ordering, and the oil companies submit quarterly returns". This is to ensure British interests are reasonably represented in tendering for contracts.

"I think we are in for a fairly quiet period," he said, "and this will cause some pressure on companies. Plainly if there is a slowdown in ordering, some yards will have problems. This can only be overcome through fleet-footed marketing, by looking for business anywhere, accepting small orders and pricing bids accordingly". Mr d'Ancona said there were areas where this country did not have as extensive a capability as he would like, such as pipe-laying and in providing drilling rigs. But four rigs were being built.

Patrick O'Leary

JUST FOUR BNFL URANIUM OXIDE PELLETS WILL ILLUMINATE BIG BEN'S CLOCK FROM DUSK TILL DAWN FOR 2 YEARS.

BNFL makes the fuel for all Britain's nuclear power stations which together generate about 25 per cent of the country's electricity needs. BNFL also provides nuclear fuel cycle services worldwide. Its uranium conversion technology has been licensed by major nuclear fuel manufacturers in the USA and Europe. BNFL would like to know more contacts from major power generators. BNFL Nuclear Fuels Limited, Risley, Northampton Road, Northampton NN4 6AF.



BNFL makes the fuel for all Britain's nuclear power stations which together generate about 25 per cent of the country's electricity needs. BNFL also provides nuclear fuel cycle services worldwide. Its uranium conversion technology has been licensed by major nuclear fuel manufacturers in the USA and Europe. BNFL would like to know more contacts from major power generators. BNFL Nuclear Fuels Limited, Risley, Northampton Road, Northampton NN4 6AF.

Gas-cooled reactors

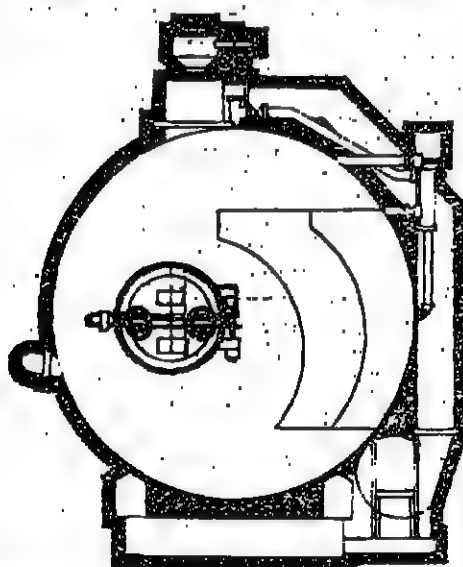
But the more relevant comparison with the PWR is the current type of advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR). Two AGRs are in operation, three more are due to be completed by the mid-1980s and two by the end of this decade.

Power stations built on AGRs have twin reactors, each providing 600 Megawatts (Mw), or 1200 Mw in total. A large part of the construction is a civil engineering job of making a prestressed concrete pressure vessel 15 ft thick to hold the reactor core, thus much of the work is done on site. Coolant gas pumped into the reactor emerges at about 650 degrees C to go through a heat exchanger before being re-used.

The PWR depends on a single vessel, with a lid fastened on the top by a ring of massive bolts. Water is pumped under pressure of 150 atmospheres (2,300 lb per square inch) through the core to produce temperatures of about 320 degrees C. One PWR reactor produces more than 1,100 Mw of electricity.

Both the PWR and AGR use fuel rods containing pellets made from uranium dioxide powder in which the amount of fissionable uranium-235 has been slightly enriched, to 2 per cent in the case of the AGR and 3 per cent for the PWR. About 113 tonnes of fuel are used in an AGR and 90 tonnes in a

Oil to Coal. Payback 2 years.



Oil to Coal & Waste. Payback 1 year.

— so vast are the savings when converting to 'Vekos Multi-Fuel' Industrial Packaged Boilers, especially as a 25% government grant for oil to coal conversions is now in operation.

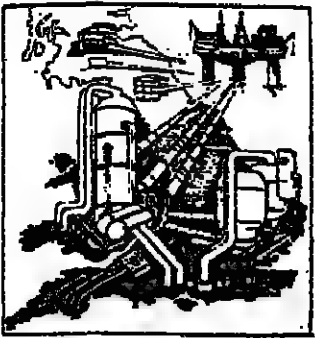
THORN EMI Industrial Boilers Limited
P.O. Box 4 Burton Works
Dudley West Midlands DY3 2AD
telephone 0384 55455, telex 337388

We p
in
CUT I
HEATII
Prehea
centrifuging no
regenerative he
pioneered by A
Using p
exchanger tech
system can deli
to 80% with pa
6 months.
Full det
Power Depart
Great West R
telephone: 01-5
KALF

The light seen at the top of the tower is called the Avon light. Since 1885 it has been lit to indicate that the House of Commons are still in session.

The North Sea

Maturity brings its own problems



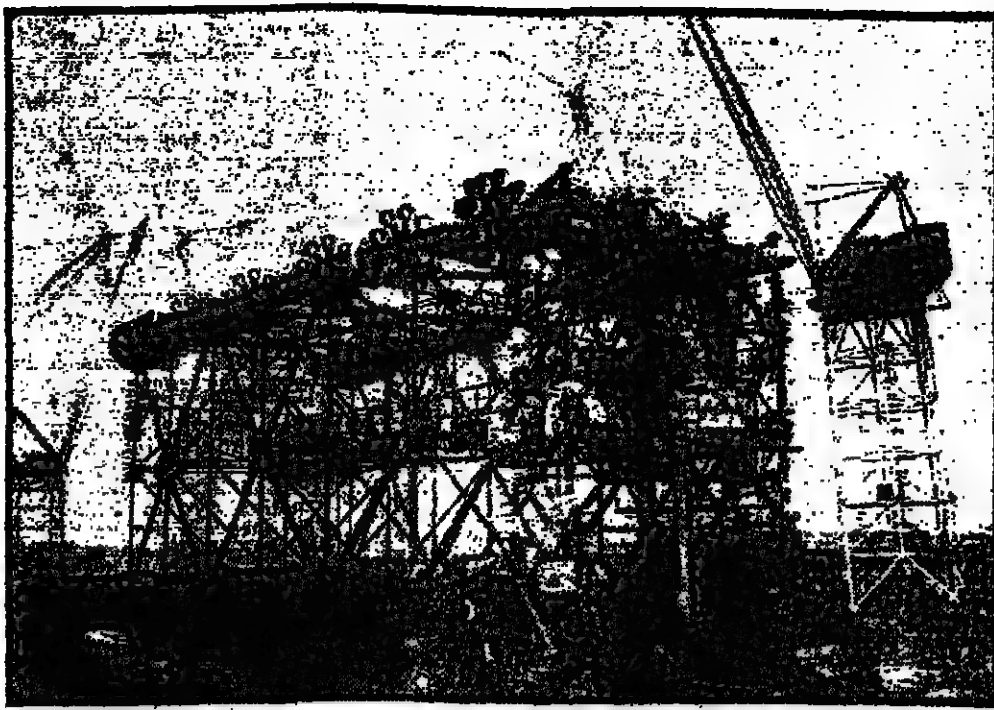
It is only six and a half years since oil started flowing from the North Sea, but already Britain has become self-sufficient in oil and is now the non-communist world's fifth largest oil producing country. Official government projections show that Britain will continue to produce more oil than it consumes some way into the 1990s, with a fair chance that this period as a net exporter of what is still the western world's key internationally traded commodity will continue into the next century.

The impact on the nation's finances, in the form of revenue from North Sea taxes, is now of major significance. When the present Government came to power in 1979, revenues from offshore oil were running at less than £600m a year. In the current financial year, ending next month, they are expected by the Treasury to total £5,400m, and by 1984/85 the yield will be £8,000m. By then North Sea oil will account for five per cent of the country's gross national product.

The scale of these figures underlines that the North Sea has become what in oil industry jargon is called "a mature province", one that has passed from being an uncharted and technologically daunting area (as it was when exploration first started in 1964) to one where sustained production from a score of proven fields emphasizes how successfully the economic and technological challenges have been met.

It is all too easy, as oilmen sometimes plaintively observe, for the average Briton to forget the sheer scale of what has been achieved in the last 18 years. Only one field, the Bessie development in the Moray Firth, is within sight of land, and that is in an area of little population. Consequently, the vast majority of people have little inkling of what is actually involved in producing the oil miles from shore in some of the deepest water and most hostile weather.

That said, maturity is not without problems of its own. It is probably fair to say that, in its entire history, the North Sea has never generated so much political controversy as it has in the last couple of years. At one level this has taken the form of a growing feeling among many politicians, economists and industrialists that the economic benefits of the North Sea are being squandered — and in some extreme cases,



Construction of massive oil rigs, such as that in this picture, is only one of a range of new engineering and technology industries in support of off-shore work established in Scotland, and other parts of Britain. They all have increasing export potential.

that we would be better off if the oil was left where it is. The idea of that campaign is now probably beginning to ebb in line with the worst of the economic recession. It is more than being made up for, however, by the future over the Government's State-owned energy corporations — the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC) and the British Gas Corporation.

When he announced the so-called Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill last autumn, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Energy Secretary, hailed it as the "largest measure of privatization ever placed before Parliament". The Bill, which looks set to obtain Royal Assent by July, would open the way for the sale to the public of 51 per cent of the shares in the exploration and production assets of BNOC, leaving the corporation's oil trading activities as a 100 per cent State-owned concern.

The legislation's impact on British Gas would be even more profound. It paves the way for the enforced sale of the corporation's North Sea oil assets (which are not inconsiderable) — and even more importantly — would break the corporation's effective monopoly powers of purchase over all offshore gas discoveries.

Opposition to Mr Lawson's Bill has largely focused on the sale of the oil assets. Critics say that, particularly at a time of falling oil prices which have depressed the current market value of oil shares, the BNOC sale will be tantamount to selling off valuable national assets at "knockdown" prices, purely for short-term Treasury gains.

Opposition MPs, backed up by some members of BNOC's own board, also claim that selling up and privatizing BNOC will threaten the security of the country's oil supplies in the event of

another future oil crisis. This is denied by the Government. Security of supplies will be maintained, Mr Lawson insists, by the retention in State hands of the oil trading arm of BNOC. This already handles, under a number of statutory agreements with oil companies, nearly two-thirds of the 1.9 million barrels of oil a day produced from the North Sea.

There is a growing feeling in the City and in Whitehall, however, that the sale of shares in BNOC will have to be postponed beyond the original target date this November.

It is the gas provisions, however, that could have the greatest effect on the future of the North Sea. Gas, in fact, is rapidly coming out of its shadow as the poor relation of oil as a major source of offshore energy supplies. The first gas from the southern North Sea, off the coast of East Anglia, started flowing as long ago as 1967, and current production at 3,330 million cubic feet a day accounts for about 80 per cent of domestic supplies. There is no doubt that there are additional reserves of gas in the North Sea that could be developed very quickly.

'Peppercorn' prices condemned

Oil companies have consistently complained that British Gas has used its monopoly purchase powers to pay "peppercorn" prices for supplies.

The Government's legislation means that oil companies that find new gas fields will be free to sell direct to large industrial customers if they so wish and use the British Gas pipeline network to transport it to them. This, says Mr Lawson, should open the way for greatly increased exploration for gas, as well as for better deals for the industrial customers. The oil industry, so far at least, has been surprisingly cool in its response to something for which it had previously pressed so hard. Its argument is that, unless it is allowed to export gas to the Continent, something which has never yet happened, and which Mr Lawson says he is not yet ready to consider, British Gas still has a considerable grip on the gas supply market which will effectively render the law a dead letter.

Only time will tell whether this is the case, what is undeniable is that gas will become a far more important element in the North Sea equation throughout the 1980s. The fuel's growing importance was underlined in another way last year with an acrimonious argument, inside and outside the Government, about plans to build a 470-mile "gas gathering" pipeline down the centre of the North Sea. This am-

bitious project, costing more than £2,000m and billed as the largest civil engineering scheme of its kind, was designed to collect gas produced in association with oil from several oil fields. Although supported by Mr Lawson's predecessor as Energy Secretary, Mr David Howell, this was ultimately abandoned by the Cabinet after the refusal of oil companies to invest in the pipeline without government guarantees.

Although the short-term outlook for North Sea oil is undoubtedly bright, a number of major uncertainties and problems are looming.

Production from existing fields is expected to continue to build up from 1.9 million barrels a day to a peak of between 2.2 and 2.3 million barrels a day in 1985, after which it will start to decline, at first slowly and then, in the 1990s, rather more rapidly. With the start-up of two new developments, Fulmar and North Cormorant, last month, there are now 20 fields in production, with another six scheduled to come onstream by 1984. It is what happens after that which the oil industry is now turning its attention — and where the problems may lie.

Shortage of oil is not the difficulty. Taking existing and likely future discoveries together, Mr John Raisman, chairman of Shell UK, estimates that as many as 70 new fields could be developed over the next two decades. The problem is that they will be smaller, more expensive and in some cases more technically demanding than the ones found so far. The cost, according to Mr Raisman, could be as high as £60,000m, equivalent to roughly half the annual public spending by the government.

There are two main constraints which could prevent these investments being made. One is the price of oil. The other major constraint could be the level of North Sea taxation, a subject of heated controversy between the Treasury and the oil industry. Oil companies have stepped up their complaints that the existing four-tier oil taxation regime is too burdensome, and have warned that it could adversely affect the pace of future exploration and development.

The Budget earlier this month, in which the Chancellor refused to reduce the overall burden of oil taxes despite some structural changes, shows that the Government still does not — or cannot afford to — believe them. What is clear is that, with a top marginal rate of 89 per cent and an average take from each North Sea development of between 75 and 85 per cent (the figure is disputed), North Sea taxation is about as high as it can go.

Jonathan Davis



All the technology in the world cannot bring North Sea oil ashore without the intervention of the new breed of workers — roughnecks, toolpushers and a battalion of other men prepared to accept hardship for high rewards.

Coal

Slack today but there is a glowing outlook



This is the year of change for Britain's coal industry. The personalities who have played such an important role in its performance, and the image it presents to the outside world, are changing. Mr Joe Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, has bowed out and handed over the reins to the much more militant and strident Mr Arthur Scargill.

Who will face Mr Scargill across the negotiating table when the National Coal Board begins talks on the miners' next pay claim is, for the moment, unresolved. Sir Derek Ezra, the present chairman, is due to leave early in July. Whoever succeeds him will face a daunting task in those negotiations, the results of which have long had repercussions throughout the economy.

Whatever the difference of political views and the effect of past confrontations, the chairman of the NCB and the mineworkers' leaders have shared a joint commitment to securing a long-term future for the coal industry. Is it a commitment which has been made similarly by both Labour and Conservative governments and is reflected in the present Government's introduction of the latest Coal Industry Bill, which will increase the NCB's borrow-

ing ceiling to £4,500m, or by order, to £5,000m.

That Bill is designed to sustain the industry's capital investment programme at an appropriate level until 1983-84. Over the past ten years governments have provided funds totalling about £3,000m for the coal industry based largely on the document, *The Plan For Coal*, which proved optimistic in its forecasts. Among other things it said that with the expected steady demand for coal, an output target of 135m tonnes by 1985 would be justifiable; that coal's competitive position would be improved as a result of a continuing rise in oil prices; and it also assumed that there would be a 4 per cent annual improvement in the industry's productivity from 1974.

But rarely indeed do plans and confident forecasts turn out to be realistic, however much investment and commitment are involved. In fact, demand for energy in Britain has fallen since 1972-73; oil prices have not risen as steeply as expected (and now are falling quite sharply); and against the background of the deepest recession since

the 1930s, while productivity has improved, the NCB is producing more coal than the market needs.

During February, for example, productivity was at its best ever level with output per manshift at 2.51 tonnes. But faced with a declining demand at home, stocks have built up dramatically. In March 1979 total undistributed stocks of coal amounted to 12.1m tonnes; the figure by the end of this month is expected to be more than double. Financing these stocks has become a major burden on the NCB, increasing its demand for working capital. Interest charges alone are likely to involve more than £360m.

Sir Derek Ezra underlined the scale of the problems in a recent speech but noted that a policy of competitive pricing had enabled the NCB to gain a larger share of the smaller total energy market while, in an effort to reduce stocks, a major effort has been made in promoting exports.

The NCB now exports to more than a score of foreign countries. But whatever the vagaries

of the international oil market and of the international economic scene, the NCB, the NUM and, most importantly, politicians, remain convinced that coal can have a lasting and prosperous future built on reserves, which at the current rate of consumption, are equivalent to about 500 years.

This government, like its predecessor, believes that coal will continue to occupy a central position in the longer term energy scene and, with skill and good business judgment, will be able to expand the existing markets which it serves and open up new opportunities. As Mr John Moore, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Energy, said during the second reading of the Coal Industry Bill: "In an energy hungry world, coal's value grows and grows... its future lies in its use as a fuel for industry, as petrochemical feedstock, as substitute natural gas and, in the longer term, as a source of liquefied petroleum".

Peter Hill
Industrial Editor



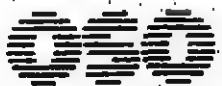
Today coal is hewn by mechanical cutters. In the future, engineers predict, it will be cut, sorted, washed and delivered to the power station in one automated operation.

We put people in touch

If you know about offshore oil and gas you will probably also know about the wide ranging capability of the UK offshore supplies industry — a capability gained in the harsh environment of the North Sea and this applicable to other areas throughout the world. The Offshore Supplies Office of the Department of Energy will put you in touch with the companies which can be of specific use to you. The business of the Offshore Supplies Office is to:

- support the interests of British industry and help it achieve the largest possible share of the offshore oil and gas market
- help offshore oil and gas operators to identify British suppliers of equipment and supporting services
- promote new ventures to increase UK involvement in supplying the offshore market
- provide advice on joint ventures and licensing arrangements
- encourage research and development by British industry to expand its capability in offshore markets

If you would like to talk to us, please contact the Offshore Supplies Office, Alhambra House, 45 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, G2 6AS, Telephone Glasgow (041) 221 8777, Telex 779379.



CUT LUBE OIL HEATING COSTS

Preheating lube oil prior to centrifuging now costs less thanks to regenerative heating techniques pioneered by Alfa-Laval.

Using proven plate heat exchanger technology the Alfa-Laval system can deliver energy savings of up to 80% with payback typically under 6 months.

Full details from: Power Department, Alfa-Laval Co. Ltd., Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex. Telephone: 01-560 1221. Telex: 22769.

ALFA-LAVAL

If only Nuclear Energy were this simple.

Nuclear energy is one of the most complex issues facing us today. And one of the most misunderstood, because many of the arguments have been based on second-hand information.

And because of this, it is important that you know the facts.

Did you know, for instance, that it is impossible for a power station to explode like an atomic bomb?

Or that the public's exposure to radiation from natural sources is on average some 600 times greater than that from the nuclear industry?

But why do we need nuclear energy? Is it economical? And how does it compare with other available energy sources?

These are just some of the questions that require answers. Answers based on facts.

Fill in and return the coupon and we'll send you the facts. Free.

I WANT THE FACTS ABOUT NUCLEAR ENERGY

Name _____
Address _____

The Nuclear Power Information Group,
30 Millbank, London SW1P 4RD.

THE NUCLEAR POWER INFORMATION GROUP IS SPONSORED BY: BRITISH NUCLEAR FORUM, BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS LIMITED, THE CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD, THE ELECTRICITY COUNCIL, THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR CORPORATION, THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND HYDRO-ELECTRIC BOARD, THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND ELECTRICITY BOARD AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY.

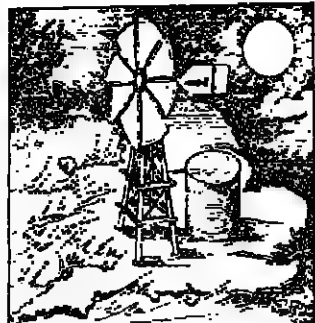
Conservation/Pearce Wright

The dangers of future dependence on imported fuels

Though Britain is energy wealthy with North Sea oil and gas, large coal reserves and considerable nuclear knowledge, we are also an energy-intensive economy. So the quicker we consume our resources of fossil fuels, the sooner our dependence on importing fuel will increase again.

Even with recession, the nations of the world are using more than twice as much energy as in 1960. The development of the North Sea may have cushioned Britain against some of the effects of post-1973 oil price rises, but it is impossible to insulate any country from the basic energy problems of the world.

The way the oil companies, electricity, gas and coal boards tout for business through television advertising is an example of fiddling while Rome is burning. Instead of encouraging the consumption of one type of fossil fuel in preference to another, the national goal should be the fostering of conservation of those diminishing resources and the development of the renewable forms of energy from wind, wave, tide, sun and geothermal heat.



In addition, the generation of heat and the creation of solid and liquid fuels from urban waste and from crops will help stretch the finite sources of energy still further. In the theory of energy economics, conservation can be regarded as a source of supply because of the impact it should have on the life span and price of the fossil fuels.

The drawbacks to this notion are obvious. While the decision to build a new power station is quite straightforward, a decision about the best form of conservation project to support is beset by imponderables.

The main hurdle is fragmentation. For example, central government uses only about 6 per cent of energy supplies. The remaining 94 per cent is consumed by about 20 million households and a host of industrial, commercial, local authority and other public sector users of energy.

It is not easy to arrange these customers into appropriate groups to alleviate energy savings by better insulation, modern electronic controls, new heating and lighting equipment, and better boilers.

Towards less use of resources

The rise in oil prices after 1973 and the knock-on effects it had in other costs demonstrated clearly that Britain was a nation of energy spendthrifts. Having discovered the fact, the job of converting the population into an attitude of energy-miserliness was beset by technical difficulties.

The Government's conservation campaign, based on the slogans Save It and

Switch Off, was positive propaganda. But the process of renovating millions of houses and modifying complicated industrial practices for the sole purpose of cutting down the use of fuel had to be a gradual operation.

One of the most interesting studies of adopting a more rational approach to the use of energy at home, published by the War Committee in A Warmer House at Lower Cost, shows that householders must make a moderate technical assessment to get the best return from conservation measures. Yet the degree of technical appreciation is certainly no more than that regarded as the normal level exercised in the

choice of car by most people. In the local authority housing sector many programmes of conservation have gone well beyond the basic provision of insulation. The South London Consortium, and other local authority groups, have changed the pattern of fuel use by many of their tenants by innovation. Modifications ranging from solar-assisted heating of a terrace of Victorian houses to the complete conversion of poorly designed flats in elderly blocks of property. New houses, particularly schemes at Salford and Milton Keynes, show the savings to be made with purpose-designed low energy buildings.

Solar energy panels being fitted to an experimental house at Milton Keynes

Another major advance in the local authority area is in turning household waste either into fuel, compost or a source of raw materials for recycling. Some of the large cities and towns such as Southampton, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield and Doncaster have made immense progress in this work. In a more rural area, a method of disposal which turns 99.5 per cent of household waste to good use has been devised between Wiltshire County Council and Blue Circle Industries. At its works at Westbury, about 60,000 to 80,000 tonnes a year of waste are processed by Blue Circle.

Most of the rubbish is burned, and every 4.5 tonnes of waste replaces one tonne of coal in firing the cement-making furnaces.

A similar idea has been adopted by companies, like Thorn-EMI, which have converted industrial boilers from oil-fired to solid fuel. Now, as well as coal, the products from the firm's own waste handling system is burnt. This makes a double saving on the energy bill, because as well as direct fuel saving it means that they no longer have to pay to have waste removed.

One of Thorn-EMI's factories is left with about 3,000 tonnes of waste a year, which in the past, has cost £75,000 to remove.

With this experience, and with a subsidiary, Parkinson Cowan, the group has formed Thorn-EMI Developments to concentrate on research and development of energy sources.

Another exciting development has been the production of a synthetic form of crude oil at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. An experimental plant which transforms refuse into oil has been designed by Dr Noel McAuliffe and Mr Roger Benn in the chemistry department. Various methods have been well-established by fermentation or pyrolysis.

Those processes are difficult to operate as viable commercial schemes because the fuel tends to have a low calorific value, or because there are by-products which are awkward to handle or the liquid fuel is corrosive. The McAuliffe-Benn method reacts cellulose material, mainly vegetable matter and paper, with hydrogen. The key to the efficiency of the process, carried out in a heated pressure vessel, is a catalyst and processing liquid used to provide a method comparable with a continuous petrochemical plant. Both UMIST and the Salford University Industrial Centre, through which funds from Greater Manchester are channelled, expect no difficulty in a scaled-up version.

Cheaper than oil

It is now probable that electricity generated from sea waves could be cheaper than that obtained by oil. That estimate was offered more than a year ago by Mr Stephen Salter, of Edinburgh University, at a meeting discussing alternative sources of energy, at the Royal Society of Arts.

Some rapid advances in research in the following months justified that optimism. However, a more cautious view prevails in the Department of Energy, which has been the main source of support for wave projects since 1975.

Efforts to exploit the immense amount of energy contained in waves were prompted by an invitation at Edinburgh referred to as the Salter Duck. Other schemes followed quickly and at least six of them are regarded as designs worth pursuing by scientists and engineers in university and industrial laboratories.

Enthusiasts for methods of tapping renewable sources of energy suffer, however, from a handicap familiar to most genuine pioneers. Their arguments tend to take second place in negotiations about the allocation of money for research and development. Established ideas — in this case nuclear, oil and coal — overshadow the innovations that involve a fundamental change in direction in technical, industrial and social terms.

The most serious problem confronting the wave power innovators is probably not the limits imposed by science and engineering, but the psychology and attitudes of those who are wedded to the orthodox approach to fossil fuels. Yet there is no question about the vast amounts of power that are lying offshore waiting to be tapped.

In principle, a 1,000 km

stretch of wave-driven generators in the north-west Atlantic could meet half the Bristol electricity demand. In practice, the power plants producing energy from this source could be a mixture of small to large constructions meeting particular needs, based on national or more local requirements for power.

The Department of Energy chose a figure of 5p a unit for generating electricity as the target that the research groups must meet to be considered for the review of wave energy that has just taken place. Rather to the surprise of the group of advisers who have been evaluating wavepower for the Government, the special Energy Technology Support Unit at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, that cost has been met by several of the possible devices.

Moreover, at least two of them are ready to be converted to a prototype to go to sea. One is an academic-industrial-based invention known as the Sea Clam, already supported by private money from Sea Energy Association, which is a consortium led by Ready Mixed Concrete and Cawoods Groups backing an invention of Lanchester Polytechnic, at Coventry. Plans are ready for a two-thirds scale model to be built in the Howard Doris dry dock at Loch Kishorn and put to sea off Milford Haven. It would cost £10m and generate 2 mw electricity.

The other device known as the Oscillating Water Column has been developed by the National Engineering Laboratory. It is designed to have a life of 60 years, standing on the seabed. A 4.5 mw version could be built in the Clyde shipyards for use off the Hebrides for £20m.

The best known of the contenders, and the most technologically adventurous, is the Salter Duck. Its inventor believes that the merits of the device would be confirmed one way or another with a £500,000 a year programme for five years.

The missing tonnes

For every three tonnes of coal, oil or nuclear fuel used to generate electricity, only one tonne is delivered as useful energy to the consumer. The other two tonnes are discarded as waste heat; about 55 per cent of the original energy is lost in the cooling water and 10 per cent goes up the chimney.

The Central Electricity Generating Board has been frequently reminded that it is possible to use much of this lost energy, by operating power stations to produce both electricity and heat supplies. Instead of discarding two-thirds of the energy, the hot water is distributed for space heating in homes and offices.

There is a technical catch of course, it means that the power stations have to be operated in a slightly different way. To provide a suitable supply of heat there would be a small reduction in the amount of electricity generated with a corresponding increase in the temperature of the water distributed. It is already done in Germany, Sweden and Denmark. The potential saving of fuel in Britain would be equivalent to 30 million tonnes of coal a year.

That estimate was made by a group under the chairmanship of Dr Walter Marshall, set up in 1974 by the Government, to examine the prospect for combined heat and power in the UK. They concluded that if the average fuel prices doubled over the 20 years from 1979, and they have almost done that already, CHP could become the cheapest way to heat houses.

However, the capital cost of providing the network of pipes would be high. The Marshall report recommended a demonstration scheme in at least one major town.

Subsequent action has been slow. But the Department of Energy recently appointed the consulting engineers W. S. Atkins to make a comparison between nine locations in the choice of the area for the demonstration project. The places are Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leicester, Liverpool, London (East), Manchester, Sheffield and Newcastle.

The CEGB has a beguiling reply to those who criticise it for not offering combined heat and power. Mr Glen England, the board's chairman, told the District Heating Association earlier this year that those who believe they have a use for reject heat should "come and get it". The board is prepared to make it free at a power station boundary. But there would be no guarantee of continuity of supply.

Energy conservation is a profitable business

Energy conservation makes sound financial sense — because obviously the less energy you waste the more money you save. As fuel costs will undoubtedly continue to rise this will continue to make sense.

Britain has a lot of natural gas in the North Sea and elsewhere around our coasts but gas, like any form of energy, or indeed any valuable commodity, needs to be used wisely.

Most gas users could reduce consumption by 10% with very little effort, and no discomfort — by the use of simple, no-cost good-housekeeping measures. And the total saving would be more than £250 million in one year.

Here are some ways in which British Gas can help you to save fuel:

Technical Consultancy Service

Each gas region has a Technical Consultancy Service to help industrial and commercial customers achieve greater efficiency in the use of gas. These units offer expertise on the design of new plant, carry out item-by-item surveys to ensure that existing plant is working at peak efficiency, and give sound practical advice on how to save fuel. All these Technical Consultancy Service units, have the back up of...

The Midlands Research Station

... at which British Gas furthers research and development into increased efficiency in gas use by industrial and large commercial organisations.

Watson House

... which continues British Gas research and development for domestic and small commercial applications is continually working with manufacturers to develop new and more efficient appliances.

The British Gas School of Fuel Management

This unique facility has helped train thousands of managers from industry, commerce and local authorities to save fuel.

Gas Energy Management Awards

These awards are presented to those partnerships of industrial or commercial organisation and gas region Technical Consultancy Service which have made outstanding contributions to the efficient use of gas.

Energy Advice Centre

A British Gas Energy Advice Centre is now open in Birmingham; it has proved an instant success and is helping many industrial and commercial concerns, public authorities and students, as well as the general public.

Energy Conservation Makes Sense

The benefits of the gas industry's wealth of experience in the more efficient use of fuel are at your disposal. Make it your business to see how we can help you — fill in the coupon below.

To: British Gas Technical Consultancy Service, 326 High Holborn, London WC1V 7PT.

- ☐ Please let me have details about the Service.
☐ Please inform me about courses at the School of Fuel Management.

NAME

COMPANY

POSITION IN COMPANY

ADDRESS

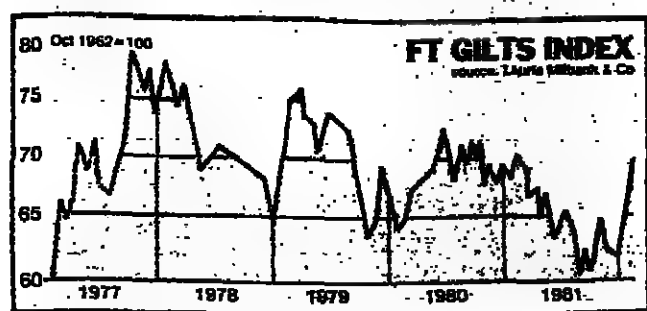
TELEPHONE

BRITISH GAS



BUSINESS NEWS

Boost for securities



A further rise in gilt-edged stock yesterday boosted the FT Government Securities index by 0.49 to 69.55, only 1.06 short of the 1981 high. Gilts have been encouraged by the Chancellor's Budget decision to raise this year's monetary target, by recent good news on inflation, and by a possible future scarcity of conventional stocks, as the Government makes more use of index-linked gilts. But the future course of United States interest rates, which could put pressure on sterling, remains a worry.

Business Editor, page 15

US inflation rate slows

The sharp recession and falling petrol prices slowed the rise in United States inflation to an annual rate of 3 per cent in February, the smallest gain since July 1980. Some economists even predicted that the recession, a worldwide oil surplus and abundant food supplies might produce small declines in the consumer price index in the coming months. The level for February rose a seasonally adjusted 0.2 per cent, against 0.3 per cent in January.

Steel cuts to cost 400 jobs

Over 20 per cent of British high alloy steel casting capacity is to be phased out under a voluntary scheme which will involve five foundries closing with the loss of 400 jobs. The 11 foundries which remain will pay a levy, spread over five years, towards the closure costs. The axe will fall heaviest at the Low and Bonar foundry at Slough, which has made heavy losses and where 200 jobs will go.

Burton tops profits forecast

Burton Group, the Top Man, Top Shop and Dorothy Perkins clothing chain, has topped its profit forecast with a 53.7m rise to £24.2m in the half year, sending the shares up 11p to 170p. This compares with £16.4m made in its last full year to August and puts Burton on course to make a profit of £20m this year. For the first time in two years, shareholders are expected to receive a higher half-year dividend - up to 3.57p gross against 2.86p.

Poles repay

West German banks have received almost all the 1981 interest payments due from Poland. Banking sources are confident that the March 25 deadline for completion of payments to all 500 western creditor banks will now be met. This is a precondition for rescheduling £2,400m (£1,333m) of 1981 debt.

MARKET SUMMARY

Shares leap back to life

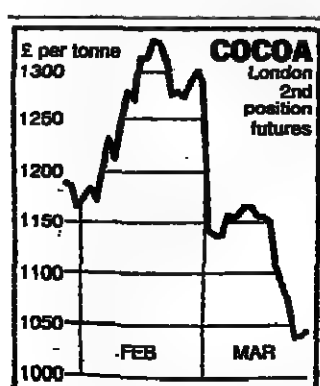
LONDON EXCHANGE

FT index 554.3 up 4.2
FT Gilts 69.55 up 0.49
FT all share 325.75 up 3.05
BSE share 24.02

Overnight firmness on Wall Street, hopes of lower interest rates and a crop of healthy results brought life back to the stock market, with the FT index closing up 4.2 at 554.3. Imperial Group put on 3 1/2p to 93 1/2p as Mr Geoffrey Kent, the newly-installed chairman, gave a cautiously optimistic picture of prospects to analysts. In the tobacco division, where rationalization has recently cut out 1,700 jobs, he said the group was going for margins as well as volume. The brewing division is expected to do a lot better, but the impact of the sterling exchange rate on the Howard Johnson division could depress any improvement there.

The chairman said forecasts of £150m pre-tax in the present year were over-optimistic, and most analysts are now looking for around £130m after last year's £108m. Confirmation that S. Pearson was in talks with its 64 per cent owned subsidiary Pearson Longman provided a further boost to the shares, with S. Pearson 40p better at 252p and Pearson Longman putting on 19p to 291p. There were gains for most leading equities, with GEC up at 82 1/2p, but Vickers shed 4p to 160p ahead of final figures today which should show a modest improvement but not the much talked-about rights issue.

COMMODITIES



London cocoa prices continued their modest rally. March material gained £1 to £1,039 a tonne, while the May contract put on £3 to £1,044. There was some buying from the Continent. But the market is still overcast by the prospect of a supply surplus.

CURRENCIES

Gold extended Monday's rebound from last week's losses on short covering, helped by easier United States interest rates. Dealers reported that producers were taking advantage of the rally to make sales.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING
£1,802.5 up 20 points
Index 91.2 down 0.1
DM 4.310
Yen 111.250
Yen 441.50
DOLLAR
Index 114.9 down 0.1
DM 2.3645 down 35 pts
GOLD
\$329.50 up 8s

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones index 7,087.80 up 32.42
Hongkong: Hang Seng index 1,221.18 down 2.01

TODAY

Phillips and Drew International Investment conference. British and South Asian Trade Association conference on Anglo-Indian business prospects. Education, Science and Arts Committee on biotechnology. New vehicle registration new orders (January). Board meetings - Interims: Armstrong Equipment, Blue Bird Confectionery, Maynards, Sirdar, James Walker, Finesse, Bestobell, BICC, Church and Co., Richard Clay, Clifford's Dalries, DRG, Eagle Star, Hepworth Ceramic, A. Jones, Jones and Shipman, Laing Properties, Percy Lane, London and Manchester Assurance, J. N. Nichols (Vimto), Prudential, Rockware, Rotork, Slough Estates, Vickers.

MONEY MARKETS

Overnight money was tight but period rates tended easier in late trading. The Bank bought £374m of bills at unchanged rates, having raised its shortage forecast from £350m to £450m. Domestic rates
Base rates 13%
3 month interbank 13-16-13 1/2
Euro-currency rates
3 month DM 14-14 1/2
3 month DM 9-9 1/8
3 month Ft 28-28

Nigeria bans imports as oil revenue falls

By Melvyn Westlake

Nigeria has suspended almost all its imports because of falling revenue caused by the world oil glut, according to a Reuters report last night.

The decision is likely to hit Britain hard, as Nigeria's non-oil imports, worth £1,200m, came from Britain in 1980, making Britain the biggest exporter to Nigeria. The figure is thought to have risen last year.

The suspension has been effected, according to the report, by the Nigerian Central Bank telling banks there that, from yesterday, they could issue no more letters of credit, the means through which most imports enter the country.

The step was taken because oil is Nigeria's main source of foreign earnings. It has been cutting production to try to prevent the price falling even further. Production fell to 1.5 million barrels a day last month from more than 2.3 million barrels during 1979.

Under a production-sharing agreement reached last week with other Opec oil-exporting nations, it has agreed to a further cut to 1.3 million barrels.

At the same time, Nigeria has been losing customers because until this week it was demanding \$36.50 a barrel for its crude oil, while Britain was offering similar quality at \$31 a barrel. It agreed at the Opec meeting to trim its price to \$35.42 a barrel.

It was not immediately clear in the Reuters report how long the curb will last. But it does appear that the Nigerian Government has decided to cut

Two more directors resign from ACC

By Drew Johnston

Two more directors have resigned from the board of Associated Communications Corporation. They are Sir Leo Platsky and Sir Max Aitken. Their decision comes only a day after the resignation of Lord Matthews.

Mr Robert Holmes a Court, whose TVW Enterprises is bidding for control of Associated Communications Corporation, is now asking City institutions to nominate at least two new directors of stature and independence.

Sir Leo, a former Permanent Secretary and £2,000 a year non-executive director of ACC, said: "I am no longer prepared to have my name associated with the company."

With Lord Matthews, chairman of Fleet Holdings, he led an unsuccessful attempt on Monday to replace Mr Holmes a Court as chairman while the takeover battle for ACC continued.

Two other non-executive directors, Mr Ellis Birk and Mr Norman Collins, who supported the move to oust Mr Holmes a Court, remain on the board.

Sir Leo said he had been contemplating resignation for a long time.

The second director who resigned yesterday, Sir Max Aitken, is ill and was not party to the boardroom struggle.

Mr Gerald Ronson, whose Heron Corporation is contesting Mr Holmes a Court's bid for ACC said yesterday he was "not surprised" by the resignations. He said Heron was holding its fire until it saw how the present Holmes a Court bids develop.

Another 10p wanted on pump prices

By Jonathan Davis

The big oil companies were quick yesterday to follow Shell's lead and attempt to push up petrol prices by 5p a gallon, bringing the average urban pump price to 160p a gallon for four-star.

BP, the third biggest petrol retailer with about 15 per cent of the market, said "prices would be going up at its BP and National stations from midnight last night. The company claimed that its losses on petrol have been running at about £5m a month.

Texaco, the fourth biggest retailer with about 9 per cent of the market, said it would also be raising its prices. Esso, the joint market leader with Shell, said it expected to follow suit, although no formal announcement was likely.

All four companies will be raising their prices by withdrawing part of a discount to 75 per cent of the trade, they would like to see another 10p a gallon go on at the pumps, bringing the average price to 170p a gallon - where it was four months ago.

The increase will not be spread evenly across the country. They will be concentrated on urban areas, where some of the fiercest price-cutting wars have been raging. Nigeria is already reported to have been offered cheap loans totalling £1,000m (£555m) by its fellow Opec members in an effort to persuade it not to cut its oil prices.

'Leak' speculation over Pearson bid talks

By Kevin Page

S. Pearson and Son, which owns merchant banker Lazard, Royal Doulton and Madame Tussaud's, is holding bid talks with Pearson Longman in which it has 63.6 per cent.

The companies were hurried into an early announcement because of a leap of 24p in the Pearson Longman share price on Monday. There was speculation concerning a Stock Exchange "leak" of a possible bid. At last night's price of 291p, Pearson Longman is valued at £120m.

In July 1978, S. Pearson launched a 25p per share bid for Pearson Longman, which owns the Financial Times, the Westminster Press group of provincial newspapers, Ladybird and Penguin Books. The terms of one S. Pearson share, plus 30p cash, were ultimately rejected because of opposition from institutional shareholders.

Then, the offer was undertaken by a scheme of arrangement requiring the approval of 75 per cent of the shareholders. But when the terms have been agreed this time, there is likely to be a straight offer from S. Pearson for the minority.

Mr Michael Hare, chief executive of S. Pearson, said yesterday there were no positive advantages in having two publicly quoted United Kingdom groups. Although the parent company consolidated PL debt, it could not group both companies for tax purposes.

Apart from tax advantages, S. Pearson believes buying out the minority would eliminate any potential conflicts of interest, while centralisation would benefit financial planning.

On the recent rise in the Pearson Longman share price, Mr Hare said: "It looks as though there was intelligent speculation or a leak." He thought 750,000 shares had changed hands but S. Pearson was not the buyer.

After the announcement, Pearson Longman shares climbed a further 19p to a 1981-82 peak of 291p. S. Pearson rose 4p to 252p.

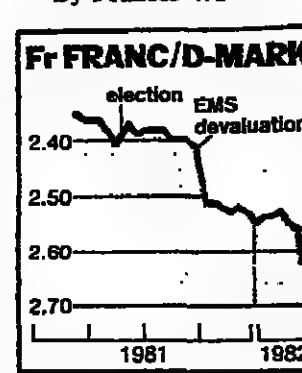


Mr Akio Morita: pull together for common purpose

Minister rules out devaluation Franc sinks to EMS floor

By Frances Williams

Pressure on the French franc showed no sign of easing yesterday as the currency sank to its permitted floor against the Deutsche mark within the European Monetary System for the first time since its devaluation last autumn. But the French Finance Minister, Jacques Delors, said in Paris that the franc would not be devalued and that all speculation was bound to fail.



The franc was fixed in Paris at its floor parity of 2.6205 per DM, from 2.6146 on Monday, a fall of more than 2 per cent since the first round departmental elections just over a week ago which sparked off renewed speculation on a further franc devaluation.

The franc traded at its floor for the second day running against the strongest EMS currency, the Dutch guilder, while the dollar climbed to a record Fr6.274 against Fr6.245 on Monday, a rise of 3 per cent since the beginning of last week.

Dealers reported heavy intervention by the French and Dutch banks to keep the franc from bursting through its EMS ceiling.

The Bank of France also intervened on a substantial scale. It also raised its seven-day Treasury discount rate from 18 to 20 per cent in an effort to stem the franc's decline.

Euro-Franc rates for short periods soared, with one-week money up to 50 per cent and three-month money up to 27 per cent from 2 1/2 per cent on Monday.

The Belgian franc, considered a candidate for devaluation along with the French currency, also weakened yesterday, trading close to its permitted floor against the guilder.

Elsewhere, the dollar faltered late in the day prompted by a fall in the key Fed Funds rate to below 14 per cent and a consequent drop in dollar rates.

The pound strengthened against European currencies early on, its trade-weighted index rising to its best for a month at 91.5, but eased later to 91.2, down 0.1 on the day.

Date set for Japan trade complaint

From Alan McGregor

Geneva, March 23

The first step by the European Community in applying the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) procedures in its complaint against the inadequacy of Japan's imports is expected at the GATT Council meeting on March 31.

Japan is expected to reply by asserting that it is fulfilling its obligations under GATT. The initial phase of the talks is largely a formality and should lead quickly to the setting up of a GATT panel to examine the complaints and make recommendations.

This will be by far the largest trade dispute passed to GATT which last year handled 13 cases. Most of them concerned specific items such as the United States complaint about EEC poultry imports.

Both parties are likely to make extensive use of GATT's computerized analyses of world trade flows.

Mr Kichiji Niyazawa, Japan's chief cabinet secretary, said his country will stress its case to GATT emphatically.

The government spokesman said Japan has a strong case as the European Community's trade deficit with Japan was \$14,000m (£7,200m) last year.

West Germany is ready to curb imports of certain Japanese goods temporarily, if this is called for under an overall EEC import policy on Japanese products, a West German source said yesterday in Bonn.

The source gave a four-point analysis of the West German position:

(1) The EEC is united on its demand to Japan to open up its market further to foreign goods.

(2) Divergences arise among the 10 EEC countries on past or future measures to cope with the inflow of Japanese goods.

(3) West Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark are the most liberal of the EEC nations on the entry of Japanese products, and for its part West Germany will continue this policy as far as is possible.

(4) However, it is important to avoid increasingly restrictive cumulative national policies. West Germany fears that France, Italy and Britain will be tempted simply to shut out "sensitive" items from their market.

Mr Drew Novak, a Japan market consultant in Detroit, said refusal by Japan to ease restrictions on United States manufacturers' access to Japanese markets could spark a trade war.

Lord Harris of Greenwich, chairman of the company, said: "All five partners were dismayed by the tide of unemployment in the United Kingdom, but also the underlying fear that much of the unemployment was not temporary but a reflection of basic changes in society."

Institute of Directors chief attacks 'misrepresentation'

Union leaders 'to blame for unemployment'

By Bill Johnston

Trade union leaders were blamed yesterday as being the prime source of unemployment, Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general of the Institute of Directors, addressing the annual convention of the institute in the Albert Hall, London, referred to the trade union leaders as "the biggest obstacle to new employment".

The guilty people of the 1970s were the trade union leaders who left Britain with the social, economic and political misery of unacceptable levels of unemployment, he claimed.

"More than any other group, the leaders of the trade unions, with their legal powers and privileges which they have exploited with selfish disregard for the interests of their fellow citizens and their own members," he said.

Economic failure had been most dramatic where union power had been at its greatest. He gave the mining, printing, and steel industries with the railways and the docks as examples.

"Let me make it clear I am not attacking British workers, but they trade union members or not I repeat that I am attacking without apology the trade union leadership which disgracefully misrepresents its members," he said.

In the six years to 1979, labour productivity increased 10 times as fast in France, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands as in the United Kingdom, Mr Goldsmith claimed.

This period he described as the high-water mark of union power, in which Britain's manufacturing output grew at only one quarter of the average annual rate which was

achieved in the previous 10 years.

However, Mr Goldsmith's criticisms were not reserved for trade union leaders. Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment, was also attacked. Mr Heseltine was urged to make up his mind on the means to cut the rates, burden on business.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Mortgage Rate

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc announces that with effect from close of business on 1 April 1982 its Mortgage Rate will be reduced to 13 3/4 per cent per annum.

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

From Sony, some Ah-So semantics

When Akio Morita first visited Britain in 1953, he received "a big shock" on finding the natives were unable to pronounce the name of his Japanese firm, Tokyo Tsushin Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha. So he and his colleagues sought a suitable alternative to bridge the East-West cultural gap.

Their solution was to explore the Latin dictionary and English vernacular, whence they plundered *sonus* (sound) and a contemporary expression, "sonny boy", and Mr Morita explained, "since we were a group of sonny boys working in sound and vision, we agreed on the name Sony".

The dedication which has propelled Sony from a company with £125 capital and 20 workers in 1946 to today's multi-billion-pound corporation employing 40,000 staff worldwide, is still inherent in the outlook of its co-founder, chairman and chief executive, Mr Morita. He believes in competitiveness, worker-management cooperation, but above all in "the joy of participation and achievement".

Sony has tried, he told delegates at the Institute of Directors' annual convention at the Royal Albert Hall yesterday, "to transplant the concept into Western countries...".

Crusading in good form

Walter Goldsmith, unashamed patriot, optimist and director general of the institute, was in crusading good form as he lashed the unions not only as "the prime source of unemployment and the biggest obstacle to new employment", but also as "the chief cause of the catastrophic decline of Britain's economy".

Yet he reserved ammunition for boardrooms as well, accusing some management of spinelessness. He called on members of the institute, whose ranks have swelled by 400 in the last year, to spearhead a new generation of British business, and to enable Britain to become a low-tax, high-incentive and high-pay society.

Guru of all he informs

Our very own high technology guru, Kenneth Baker, demonstrated to the assembled directors that he was indeed the master of his craft and no mean manipulator of the whole range of available information by illustrating his speech with the aid of video display.

Two large screens flanked the information technology minister as he sold the merits of the new micro-chip age to the masters of British industry. However it was a help that the Royal Albert Hall was designed to push the products of a symphony orchestra and not to sell the benefits of micro-circuitry.

The minister had to read off some of the details on his slides for those who were in the cheaper seats at the back.

Baker — no mean manipulator of the new micro-chip age to the masters of British industry. However it was a help that the Royal Albert Hall was designed to push the products of a symphony orchestra and not to sell the benefits of micro-circuitry.

Lunchbox legends

The renowned lunchboxes were well in evidence at 1,500 of them, stacked in every conceivable corner. But where, Sir Keith Joseph demanded, are all women? "This is an almost entirely male audience — we organise things better in the Government these days," the Secretary of State for Education affirmed.

Perhaps it will all be different next year, when Mrs Thatcher has consented to be the main guest speaker.

Nicholas Cole

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Allan McKay is to be deputy chairman of East Midlands Region of British Gas and Mr George Langshaw deputy chairman of North Western Region.

Mr Richard Freeman has been appointed an assistant director of Charterhouse Japhet. Mr D J C Berens becomes managing director of London Trust Company to succeed Mr Lionel Rolfe.

Mr W H Forsey has been appointed as deputy chairman, in addition to his duties as chief general manager of the Royal London — Mutual Insurance Society.

Sir Guy Fison, recently chairman of Saccione and Speed International, has joined Whitehead Mann as a non-executive director.

A secret meeting tried to stave off the 1973 secondary banking crisis

Midnight marathon at the Bank

In the first of two articles on the crisis which faced Britain's banks, Margaret Reid reconstructs the crucial meeting which Mr Gordon Richardson called to shore up Cedar Holdings in an attempt to stop panic in the City.

From 9am on Wednesday, December 19, 1973, until 3am the following day, a sequence of secret meetings took place at the Bank of England. Prominent among those involved were Mr Gordon Richardson, the new Governor; Sir (then Mr) Jasper Holm, the youthful-looking Deputy Governor; Sir (then Mr) Kenneth Calver, the head of the accountancy firm W. H. Cork Gully who was best known as a company doctor and "undertaker"; and a number of key figures from large investing institutions and banks.

The subject was the plight of Cedar Holdings, one of the many secondary or fringe banks which had grown up rapidly alongside the older-established banks and whose failure, it was feared, could have dangerous repercussions throughout the banking system.

Cedar, which specialized in the then controversial business of second mortgage lending to individuals and which also held property interests, was on the edge of collapse. It had experienced such a swift outflow of deposits that "unable quickly to reclaim cash against its loans" — some 70,000 borrowers — it would be able to sustain only if it received immediate major cash backing.

The adverse swing in the fortunes of this very rapidly expanded but previously prospering business had followed a recent tightening in the Government's economic policies, involving a jump in the Bank of England's key minimum lending rate to a record 13 per cent, and only two days earlier, a tough mini budget from the Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord (then Mr) Anthony Barber. Cedar's business had also been hit by the repercussions of a crisis three weeks earlier, at another secondary bank, London and County Securities Group.

It was by no means unprecedented for the Bank of England to concern itself with the problems of a tottering bank. But on this occasion a further important cause for alarm was the danger that Cedar's troubles, if not solved, would be transmitted, through a domino effect, to the many other secondary banks which, with much vulnerable short-term borrowing and many assets tied up in the increasingly troubled property industry, were themselves showing signs of being at risk in the harsher new economic environment.

With such a considerable part of the financial sector potentially in jeopardy, who could say what dangers a highly publicized failure might not present for the whole banking system?

A Cedar rescue would require the cooperation of the four institutional investors — Phoenix Assurance and the pension funds of Unilever, the electricity supply industry and the National Coal Board — and of Barclays Bank, Cedar's main clearing bank.

For those cast in the role of rescue party a suite of three rooms on the Bank's first floor was provided. These were the spacious Court Room, which contains a weather vane, at that time registering "deep depression"; the Octagon Room opening into it, and an anteroom. A separate committee room downstairs had been allotted to Cedar's chairman, 72-year-old Sir Michael Morrison, and its other executive directors, including two managing directors, Mr Michael Morrison, the chairman's son, and Mr David Fischer.

Early in the day, Mr Richardson addressed the assembled representatives. On the other side of the table, receiving the governor's appeal — or rather demand — for a support package were ten men speaking for the four institutions which had for some years backed the hitherto very profitable Cedar with millions of pounds of share and loan capital. The party included Mr Bill Broadfield of the Union (Unilever) pension fund, who was non-executive director of Cedar, and Mr Hugh Jenkins, investment manager of the National Coal Board pension funds, who was shortly to join the Cedar board. But on this unusually important occasion the institutions were also represented at a higher level, Phoenix by its chairman, Viscount De L'Isle, who also chaired the large secondary bank, First National Finance Corporation.



The Governor spells it out. Left to right: Viscount De L'Isle, Mr Cob Stenham, Mr David Clement, Mr Hugh Jenkins, Sir Jasper Holm, Mr Gordon Richardson

of Barclays Bank UK management company and afterwards chairman of the Barclays Bank group, and Mr Deryk Vander Weyer, Barclay's senior general manager, who later chaired Barclay's Bank UK.

The Governor urged the representatives of the institutions to consider what rescue could be mounted and pressed them to make their response in the light of the more general dangers to be anticipated, were Cedar to be allowed to fail.

The Bank of England was asking them to devise a method of refinancing, as necessary, the whole of Cedar's £72m money book of borrowings.

The Governor and Deputy Governor were insisting "decisively" in the words of one of those present — that before the opening of the exchange in the morning — when Cedar's share quotation was due to be suspended — cover must be provided for all the deposits which might be withdrawn. Nothing less could guard against the blow to public confidence which would be produced by panic-stricken small depositors hammering vainly on closed doors for the repayment of their savings or the unrepayable consequences of the big lenders through the money markets being unable to get back deposits they had placed with Cedar.

In short, the assembled party had got to stay in the Bank until the right sort of package was wrapped up. Phoenix and the electricity pension fund, appeared most willing to respond promptly to the Bank's urging. A more critical response came from the coal board representatives, who were most of all, from the Unilever pension fund, chairman, Mr Stenham was for hours not satisfied about the case for the proposed large rescue venture.

As the day went on, the Bank piled on the pressure and some sharp exchanges occurred. One of the blunter conversations was between Mr Stenham and Sir Jasper Holm. Mr Stenham was quoted as having said "This

is immensely complicated — we all need time to think" to which, he recalled, Sir Jasper replied "You have got half an hour". This was far from well received by Mr Stenham, and he is said to have suggested that the remark would more appropriately have been addressed to one of Sir Jasper's clerks.

Bank piled on pressure

Eventually, however, the representatives of the four big institutions all came round to accepting the need for a rescue package and agreed to make available the required large sums.

The four institutions would provide £50m between them, and Barclays Bank would make £22m available, with the right, broadly, to be repaid ahead of other institutions. It was an essential element in the solution that the institutions would in due course take over the bulk of the company's multi-million pound property portfolio.

This would take Cedar out of a business not related to finance and generate cash towards the repayment of the rescue advances.

But now it suddenly became apparent that there were further hesitations about accepting the proposed rescue package among Cedar's top executive directors, who owned large shareholdings.

Just before 6pm that evening, Sir Kenneth Barker, who was then chairman of the company, was asked to go over to the Bank of England.

"There was this gathering about Cedar Holdings, a company I had never even heard of before. Everyone was arguing about what to do about the hours of the plan had been hammered out before I got there," he says.

The emergency atmosphere was accentuated by the pervasive physical chill due to the crisis. Many of the negotiators wore their overcoats.

A draft for the rescue package was eventually taken down to the separate gathering of Cedar's chairman, managing and executive directors, who were asked to sign it. They were asked to sign it. They were asked to sign it. They were asked to sign it.

Each company must liquidate after a year, although "management" is free to start all over again if they so wish.

One young enterprise which may break through the one-year barrier is Easy Carry, whose principal asset and only employee is 17-year-old Christine Hook.

And the biggest pleasure of seeing the finished product, it's your baby and it's going to make money.

Young Enterprise helps by providing initial advice and a do-it-yourself "company kit" containing articles and memoranda of association, briefs for the various jobs within the company, share certificates and sales and purchase order forms.

"We began with one pilot company at Ystradgynlais, north of Swansea," says Mr Williams. "It was called Triple Acorn and was run by 20 youngsters between 15 and 19 producing printed tee-shirts."

These were a mixture of schoolchildren and young unemployed, they raised their own share capital from well-wishers, paid rent on premises — and at the end of their year of operation paid a dividend of 43 per cent as well as "corporation tax", a contribution to Young Enterprise, as the legal entity under whose auspices they were trading.

Last year, the number of companies in the Swansea area rose to five, and Mr

Williams says advertisements in the local press have brought forward enough interested children to make it possible to start and staff 25 companies.

Throughout Britain this year, Young Enterprise says, there are 600 such companies operating.

Each company must liquidate after a year, although "management" is free to start all over again if they so wish.

One young enterprise which may break through the one-year barrier is Easy Carry, whose principal asset and only employee is 17-year-old Christine Hook.

And the biggest pleasure of seeing the finished product, it's your baby and it's going to make money.

Young Enterprise helps by providing initial advice and a do-it-yourself "company kit" containing articles and memoranda of association, briefs for the various jobs within the company, share certificates and sales and purchase order forms.

"We began with one pilot company at Ystradgynlais, north of Swansea," says Mr Williams. "It was called Triple Acorn and was run by 20 youngsters between 15 and 19 producing printed tee-shirts."

These were a mixture of schoolchildren and young unemployed, they raised their own share capital from well-wishers, paid rent on premises — and at the end of their year of operation paid a dividend of 43 per cent as well as "corporation tax", a contribution to Young Enterprise, as the legal entity under whose auspices they were trading.

Last year, the number of companies in the Swansea area rose to five, and Mr

Williams says advertisements in the local press have brought forward enough interested children to make it possible to start and staff 25 companies.

Throughout Britain this year, Young Enterprise says, there are 600 such companies operating.

Each company must liquidate after a year, although "management" is free to start all over again if they so wish.

One young enterprise which may break through the one-year barrier is Easy Carry, whose principal asset and only employee is 17-year-old Christine Hook.

And the biggest pleasure of seeing the finished product, it's your baby and it's going to make money.

Young Enterprise helps by providing initial advice and a do-it-yourself "company kit" containing articles and memoranda of association, briefs for the various jobs within the company, share certificates and sales and purchase order forms.

"We began with one pilot company at Ystradgynlais, north of Swansea," says Mr Williams. "It was called Triple Acorn and was run by 20 youngsters between 15 and 19 producing printed tee-shirts."

These were a mixture of schoolchildren and young unemployed, they raised their own share capital from well-wishers, paid rent on premises — and at the end of their year of operation paid a dividend of 43 per cent as well as "corporation tax", a contribution to Young Enterprise, as the legal entity under whose auspices they were trading.

Last year, the number of companies in the Swansea area rose to five, and Mr

Williams says advertisements in the local press have brought forward enough interested children to make it possible to start and staff 25 companies.

Throughout Britain this year, Young Enterprise says, there are 600 such companies operating.

Each company must liquidate after a year, although "management" is free to start all over again if they so wish.

One young enterprise which may break through the one-year barrier is Easy Carry, whose principal asset and only employee is 17-year-old Christine Hook.

And the biggest pleasure of seeing the finished product, it's your baby and it's going to make money.

Young Enterprise helps by providing initial advice and a do-it-yourself "company kit" containing articles and memoranda of association, briefs for the various jobs within the company, share certificates and sales and purchase order forms.

"We began with one pilot company at Ystradgynlais, north of Swansea," says Mr Williams. "It was called Triple Acorn and was run by 20 youngsters between 15 and 19 producing printed tee-shirts."

These were a mixture of schoolchildren and young unemployed, they raised their own share capital from well-wishers, paid rent on premises — and at the end of their year of operation paid a dividend of 43 per cent as well as "corporation tax", a contribution to Young Enterprise, as the legal entity under whose auspices they were trading.

Last year, the number of companies in the Swansea area rose to five, and Mr

Williams says advertisements in the local press have brought forward enough interested children to make it possible to start and staff 25 companies.

Business Editor

Gilt in buoyant mood

The gilt-edged market continued in good form yesterday, with a rise of 0.49 to 69.55 taking the FT Government Securities index to within 1.06 of last year's "high". Last year's peak did, of course, come shortly after the Budget following which gilt fell steadily away to a low (60.7) in late October. The hope this time round is that the underlying financial prospects are good enough to sustain the upward trend.

The present bullishness stems from a number of factors: the rather more practical (and accommodating) monetary targets set for the current financial year; the belief that the downward trend in inflation can be sustained, possibly bringing the year-end rate down to 8.9 per cent; and the potential supply shortages of conventional fixed interest stocks as the authorities increase the percentage of funding achieved through index-linked issues.

That said, it is difficult to see this market running away, at least not at this stage. With bank lending to the private sector as high as it has been recently, the domestic monetary background is still not wholly convincing; and most institutional investors may well think twice about committing themselves too heavily to the market, and what is expected to be a difficult month for the US money supply in April.

A sharp fall in dollar rates thereafter, could have a profound impact on international interest rates, but not a fall in the way things will work out. The prospect of the United States inflation rate drifting down to 6.7 per cent suggests that it ought to happen, yet the worst of the worst is still very much in the air.

If, incidentally, United States inflation is heading down towards 6.7 per cent, the German rate to less than 5 per cent, and the Japanese rate to less than 3 per cent, it just re-emphasises how hard the United Kingdom still has to run to stay in the game.

Burton Moving ahead

Burton Group is showing strong signs that its house is now firmly in order. Despite a few competitive and difficult High Street trading for clothing retailers, the group has exceeded all market forecasts, boosting pre-tax profits £5.7m to £14.2m in the half-year to February. Last year it made £16.4m.

Although the figures benefit from a £1.7m profit from property sales, the group's trading profits show a 19 per cent advance in all activities. But the real bonus comes from the virtual elimination of borrowings, which has cut interest charges for the six months from £3.1m to £273,000, and the absence, for the first time, of any extraordinary items. With a similar level of interest charges for the second half, Burton looks on course to meet between £20m and £21m pre-tax this year.

Burton seems to have found itself a neat niche in the market place and its growing chain of up-to-date Top Man and Top Shop outlets should benefit strongly from any upturn on consumer demand. Fears that the group would return to its former dull performance after completing the modernization programme look unwarranted. On the lift in the dividend to 2.5p and the group's return to 170p. The historic yield is 5.5 per cent.

Willis Faber Overseas gains

A falling pound works wonders for insurance brokers; with their overseas revenues and sterling expenses. Last week's profits from Sedgwick included a full currency element and Willis Faber — second of the big brokers to report — has benefited likewise. Pretax profits, two-fifths higher at £27.2m, were boosted by about £4m by currency changes.

However this does not explain why Willis, which has aggressively pushed up dividends by a quarter, did £2m or so better than the market expected. Most parts of the group have performed strongly; associated did better, expenses were held to an underlying rise of 13 per cent and investment income has shown a comfortable rise of 30 per cent to £13.4m.

Willis appears to have scored from its strength in reinsurance and a number of other important broking areas. In local currency terms, brokerage income has risen by about £2 per cent with growth coming largely from overseas. United Kingdom broking has still managed a small rise in gross revenues despite the vicious rate cutting which has seen premiums sliced by up to 20 per cent, but profits here were down.

In the United Kingdom, Willis is also claiming a sizable amount of new business and, like Sedgwick, some increase in market share, suggesting that some of the smaller brokers may have been losing out.

Meanwhile, the more widely spread operations such as Willis's stock and bonds department, still ruling in the industry, and there should be further exchange rate benefits to come through this year.

S Pearson Trying again

The City learns some lessons at least. This time around, the board of S Pearson and Lazarus, their in-house advisers will not repeat the mistakes of 1978 when institutional opposition killed off the last bid for the 36.5 per cent minority in Pearson Longman.

Unlike 1978, an announcement of bid discussions has been made at an early stage (albeit forced by an apparent leak), leaving ample time for consultation. Last time S Pearson and Schroder Wagg simply laid a bid on the table.

Second, there will be 1982 profit forecasts from both companies. These should enable shareholders to make an intelligent investment judgment.

Third, there is likely to be a straight offer for the minority, rather than a Scheme of Arrangement requiring the approval of 75 per cent of the total shareholding. This simpler approach to the purchase of the outside holding in Pearson Longman is to be welcomed.

At heart, the rationale for a merger is financial. The fashion in British corporate life is now to centralize operations rather than to give subsidiaries virtual autonomy over profit targets, working capital projections and other management functions.

The buyout would also reduce potential conflicts on expansion plans. A rights issue from Pearson Longman for instance, might not be welcomed by the majority shareholder. There has always been a possibility of dilution in S Pearson's holding should the boards disagree fundamentally.

A further, although equally unattractive, advantage, is that S Pearson as a 100 per cent owner, could consolidate Pearson Longman for tax purposes which could yield material benefits in future years.

All in all, the move is sensible, with the proviso that the terms are right, the events of 1978 were embarrassing to a group which has wide and significant City connections.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Divid	Yld %	Actual	Fully Taxed
129	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	129	—	10.0	7.8	—	—
75	62	Airspind Group	73	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	199	—	9.7	4.9	9.7	11.8
107	100	CC 11% Conv Pref	107	—	15.7	14.7	—	—
104	63	Deborah Services	63	—	6.0	9.5	3.1	5.9
131	97	Frank Horrell	127	—	6.4	5.0	11.4	23.5
83	39	Frederick Parker	78ad	—	6.4	6.2	4.0	7.6
102	93	Free George Blair	54	—	7.3	7.5	7.0	10.5
109	100	Isis Co-Prod Castings	97	—	15.7	14.4	—	—
113	94	Jackson Pref	109	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
130	108	James Burroughs	117	—	6.7	7.5	8.5	10.6
334	248	Robert Jenkins	262	—	31.3	12.4	3.5	8.9
64	51	Scruttons 'A'	62	—	5.3	8.3	9.8	9.1
222	159	Todday & Co Leslie	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinklford Ord	14	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinklford 15% ULIS	79	—	15.0	18.9	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
183	73	Walter Alexander	79	—	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2
263	212	W. S. Yeates	230	—	13.1	5.7	4.4	8.8

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

Where the managing director is only 17

AT WORK: ENTERPRISE

By Ross Davies

A red light snaps on in the studios of Swansea Sound radio station, a wail of electronic music and Stage One, the weekly business programme for young people is under way.

"Welcome to Stage One", says the presenter. "I'm Nigel Day, with current news about young people in the business world, some in business on their own, some in other people's business and some just thinking about business".

Most of the day, Nigel, aged 17, is in the lower sixth form at Morriss Junior Comprehensive School, where next year he hopes to pass "A" levels in mathematics, physics and computer science.

In his spare time, however, and when he is not introducing Stage One, Nigel Day is the managing director of Ultra Feedback, a company with 15 employees mostly of his own age, who make and sell electronic components such as the distortion devices so beloved of the people who play electric guitars.

His company, which has been trading for the past five months, is one of 12 operating in the Swansea area with chairman, managing directors, treasurers and personnel officers, ranging in age from 12 to 19.



Christine Hook, 17, (left) a future manufacturer of rucksacks, being interviewed by Swansea Sound's Nigel Day, also 17, himself the managing director of a company making electronic components.

These companies were established by the youngsters themselves, advised and subsequently supervised by Swansea's municipal Centre for Trade and Industry and a registered national charity, Young Enterprise.

Mr Trevor Williams, a development officer with the centre and the liaison man between the centre, Young Enterprise and the youngsters' companies, says the idea of these companies is to provide young people with the education in business skills with which to face the future.

As he explains, developed its own economic development policy, part of which called for some initiatives on behalf of — and by — youth.

Enter Young Enterprise, both a charity and a company limited by a guarantee, founded 20 years ago by the man who is still the honorary treasurer, Mr Walter Salomon, chairman of the merchant banker Rea Brothers.

Two years ago, Young Enterprise's area director, Major John Wharton, approached Mr Roger Warren Evans, director of the Swansea centre, and explained how the enterprise scheme works.

Firstly, a local sponsor, a local authority, a school or a firm is found who can lay on advisers to help willing children start a company which the children themselves will fund through the sale of shares, and then operate for a year in part of their spare time.

Young Enterprise helps by providing initial advice and a do-it-yourself "company kit" containing articles and memoranda of association, briefs for the various jobs within the company, share certificates and sales and purchase order forms.

"We began with one pilot company at Ystradgynlais, north of Swansea," says Mr Williams. "It was called Triple Acorn and was run by 20 youngsters between 15 and 19 producing printed tee-shirts."

[illegible]

Why HPS



GOLF

CRICKET

BADMINTON

Facing the Chinese wall game

Ladies steal the limelight



Neil Coles in play at Sunningdale yesterday.

ale

R A Latham and G Poole 2 and 1 C Heppdon and Misses L. Davies, P M P Townsend and 1 M Stungs 3 and 1 V R Freeman and P C Freeman; S Geddes and S Roberts 1 hole, M Landsborough and P Puckham, P Morley and P Burgess 2 and 1 G W Green and D Marsh.

Results at Sunningdale

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Magri title bout plan is rejected

Terry Lawless, the manager of Charlie Magri, said yesterday his man needed another bout before there could be thoughts of a match with the new world champion, Ricardo Cardona, of Columbia. "If Charlie comes through alright and Cardona still wants to come here then that is fine," Lawless said. He knew nothing about a proposed title bout and said he would be in London in June.

Magri lost his place as the number one challenger when he was surprisingly knocked out by Juan Diaz last October and failed to impress in his comeback last month against another Mexican

Cipriano Arreola. Lawless said: "too many people have written Charlie off. He fights like a Mexican going on the attack and that means when he gets caught he is caught hard but one knockout has no

Cardona, aged 30, took the world Boxing Council title from Antonio Avelar of Mexico, with a first round knockout, and Lawless commented: "It shows Avelar is human like Charlie. He

probably thought he was in for an easy defence and relaxed too much. "I would not be surprised if Cardona wanted to come to London because all flyweights know that Charlie would provide them with a big pay day because he is one of the few big

Meanwhile, it has been announced that an undefeated American heavyweight, Greco Page, will fight veteran communist patriot, Jimmy Young, on May 15, in a early chance at a world title.

Page, aged 23, who has stopped 16 of his 18 opponents, is ranked the number two contender for Mike Weaver's World Boxing Association title and number three contender for Larry

Young, who is 33, has won his last five contests. He is best known for having lost a close points decision to Muhammad Ali in a 1976 title bout. An American

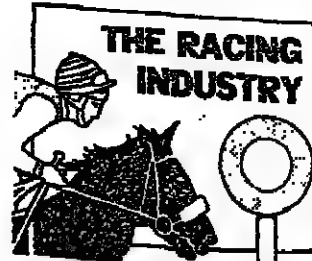
Correction
In an article headlined "No

Correction

In an article headlined "No funds for Aintree" in yesterday's *Times* we incorrectly quoted Lord Plummer as saying that £11.5 of Levy Board funds would be allocated to capital works on racecourses. The figure should have been £1.5m.

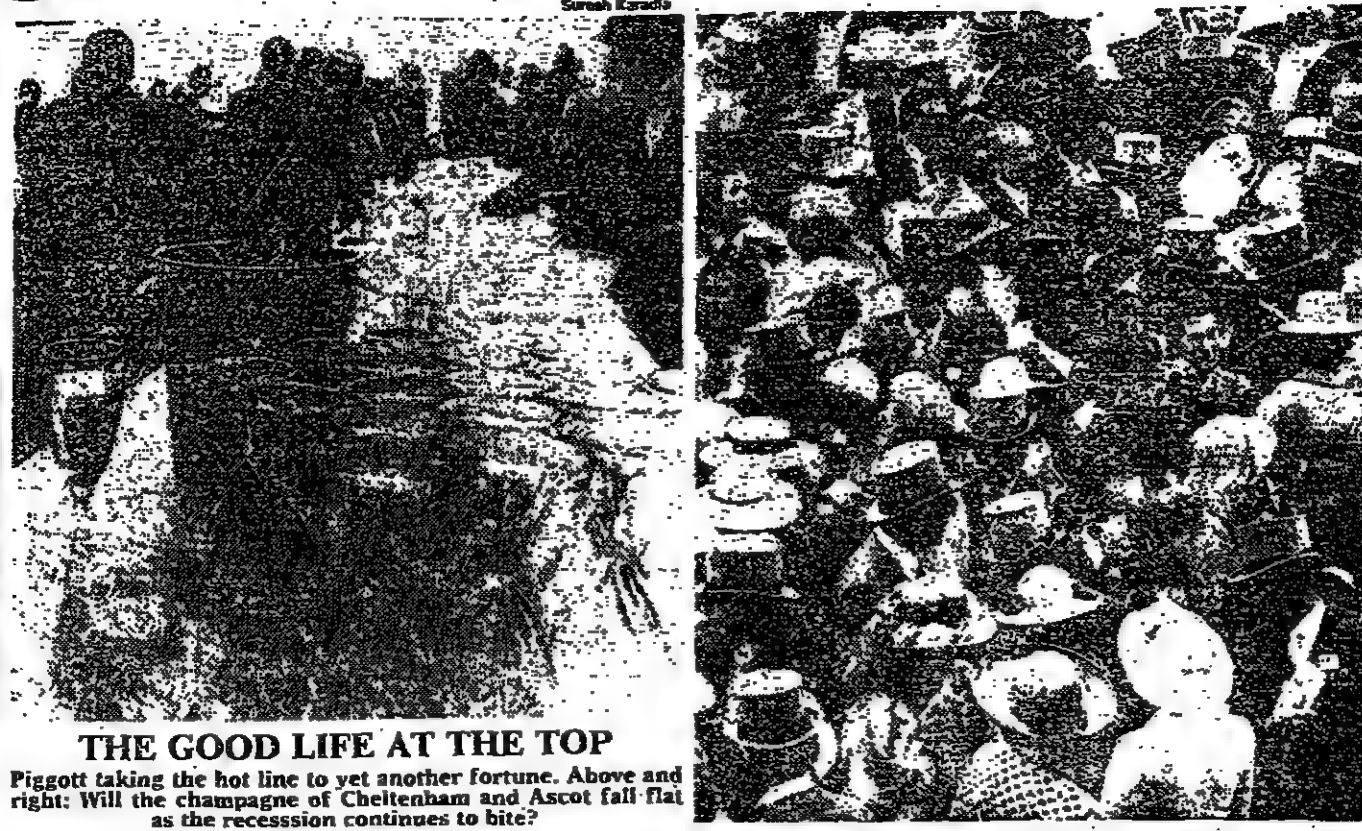
Unit Trust Prices This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday

1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	964	963	962	961	960	959	958	957	956	955	954	953	952	951	950	949	948	947	946	945	944	943	942	941	940	939	938	937	936	935	934	933	932	931	930	929	928	927	926	925	924	923	922	921	920	919	918	917	916	915	914	913	912	911	910	909	908	907	906	905	904	903	902	901	900	899	898	897	896	895	894	893	892	891	890	889	888	887	886	885	884	883	882	881	880	879	878	877	876	875	874	873	872	871	870	869	868	867	866	865	864	863	862	861	860	859	858	857	856	855	854	853	852	851	850	849	848	847	846	845	844	843	842	841	840	839	838	837	836	835	834	833	832	831	830	829	828	827	826	825	824	823	822	821	820	819	818	817	816	815	814	813	812	811	810	809	808	807	806	805	804	803	802	801	800	799	798	797	796	795	794	793	792	791	790	789	788	787	786	785	784	783	782	781	780	779	778	777	776	775	774	773	772	771	770	769	768	767	766	765	764	763	762	761	760	759	758	757	756	755	754	753	752	751	750	749	748	747	746	745	744	743	742	741	740	739	738	737	736	735	734	733	732	731	730	729	728	727	726	725	724	723	722	721	720	719	718	717	716	715	714	713	712	711	710	709	708	707	706	705	704	703	702	701	700	699	698	697	696	695	694	693	692	691	690	689	688	687	686	685	684	683	682	681	680	679	678	677	676	675	674	673	672	671	670	669	668	667	666	665	664	663	662	661	660	659	658	657	656	655	654	653	652	651	650	649	648	647	646	645	644	643	642	641	640	639	638	637	636	635	634	633	632	631	630	629	628	627	626	625	624	623	622	621	620	619	618	617	616	615	614	613	612	611	610	609	608	607	606	605	604	603	602	601	600	599	598	597	596	595	594	593	592	591	590	589	588	587	586	585	584	583	582	581	580	579	578	577	576	575	574	573	572	571	570	569	568	567	566	565	564	563	562	56
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----



Part II: Glamour of Royal Ascot and soaring bloodstock prices are a thin layer of icing on an inadequate cake — an economic analysis shows few are thriving

Looking beneath the frills of affluence



THE GOOD LIFE AT THE TOP

Piggott taking the hot line to yet another fortune. Above and right: Will the champagne of Cheltenham and Ascot fall flat as the recession continues to bite?

By Michael Seely

For the man who takes only a cursory interest in racing it appears to be a world of riches and glamour. The pomp and pageantry of Royal Ascot and the excitement of Derby day and the Grand National; a world where last year's Derby winner, Shergar, was syndicated for £10m. And all last autumn news of records being broken daily at the fashionable bloodstock sales.

International buyers flocked to Newmarket to spend a total of 41,415,380 guineas at the six sales held by Tattersalls. On September 30, 1981 a bay yearling colt by Mill Reef was sold for a record price of 640,000 guineas. A total of 378 yearlings auctioned at the October premium sales averaged 42,195 guineas, an increase of about 58 per cent on the total of comparable sales in 1980. And all this lavish expenditure took place against a background of continuing recession and rising unemployment.

This activity at the top end of the market has little to do with the general financial state of the industry, which like most businesses is facing the effects of the downturn in the economy. Let us therefore examine the structure of racing and also pose the question of who foots the bill and who reaps the harvest.

Responsibility to the punter

Racing is administered jointly by the Horserace Betting Levy Board and the Jockey Club. The Levy Board is responsible for collecting the levies from the bookmakers, and the Jockey Club, deciding how these funds should be allocated. When this decision has been reached the Jockey Club takes over and gets down to its business of the day to day conduct of the sport.

There are roughly 8,500 owners of over 12,000 horses in training. On the Flat in 1981 a proportion of these horses raced for a total of £19,733,948. Roughly speaking the levy provided 50 per cent of this amount, the owners 25 per cent and the racecourses and owners 12½ per cent apiece.

The Levy Board and the owners are the principal contributors. Not only does the Levy Board provide this large slice of the prize-money cake, it also distributes as much money again towards such diverse projects as capital improvements and general assistance to racecourses; assistance in maintaining the integrity of racing and for veterinary and scientific education.

There is hardly any branch of the industry which does not receive some help. On Monday, Lord Plummer announced that Levy Board funds would not be used to save Aintree racecourse, but that money would be made available to assist smaller courses.

It is important to realise that the Levy Board's contribution comes from the punter and not from the bookmakers or the Tote.

These two bodies are in the business mainly for their own interest — although they are generous sponsors — which in the case of the bookmakers is to show a profit to their shareholders.

Their other role is that of tax gatherers, most of this tax going to the Inland Revenue and a small proportion being returned to racing. Both the Levy Board and the Jockey Club are well aware of their responsibility to the punter and do their best to ensure that racing is fairly run and that there is an abundance of competitive sport.

It is the owners who provide nearly all the employment for the 20,000 who work in the industry. This is apart from their contribution to prize money. It is estimated that annually owners pour £70m into racing's coffers.

So what do they get out of it? Apart from the top five per cent of owners, precious little. John Biggs, the chairman of the Racehorse Owners Association says: "In 1980 the top five per cent of owners won 75 per cent of the total prize money available. The next 30 per cent took most of the rest leaving virtually nothing for the remaining 65 per cent."

The fact Michael Scoute and Henry Cecil, the two leading trainers in 1981, won £1,312,144 for their patron, about 10 per cent of the total prize money available on the Flat that year for itself.

Most top trainers are earning a good living and it is expensive to keep a horse in one of their stables. One of these trainers with 120 horses in his yard charges £105 per week per horse plus £10 a week for blacksmith's and veterinary fees. On top of this there are entrance fees, travelling expenses, insurance, to mention but a few extra items. Insurance premiums run up at about three per cent of the estimated value of the horse.

Such a trainer would be employing about 60 staff at an average wage of £84 per week. This would account for under 50 per cent of his total turnover, which would be in the region of about £750,000 per annum. Apart from what he charges, the trainer would also receive 10 per cent of both win and place money during the season. He would also receive in most cases a commission on the horses sold out of his stable and invariably a nomination or a share in a stallion that he has helped the owner to promote. The successful modern trainer is something of an entrepreneur, who has not only to turn out winners but also to sell himself in the market place in order to attract owners with heavy purses and horses with classic-winning blood flowing through their veins. This man's existence contrasts sharply with the smaller trainer, as can be seen from the article on Ron Atkins below.

As with the trainers it is only comparatively few jockeys who make a fair living. Flat race jockeys receive £29 per ride, their jumping counterparts £350. They also receive a percentage of the value of the races they have won — on the Flat between four and a half per cent and five per cent and over the sticks about six per cent. Additional

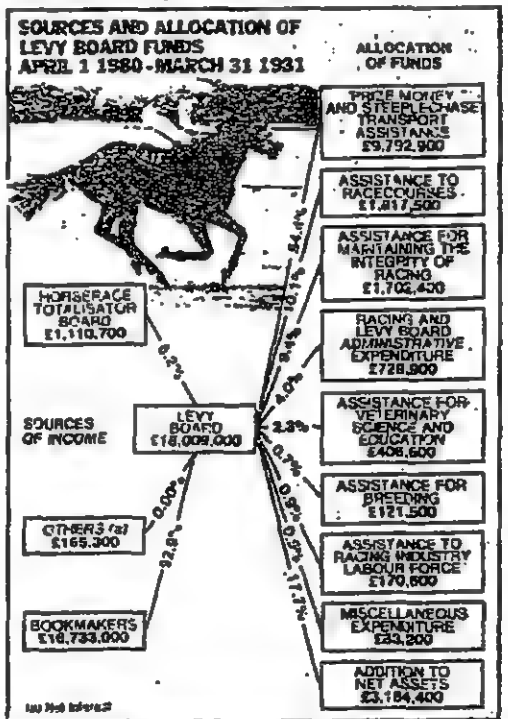
presents from owners are the rule rather than the exception.

A top flight jockey might earn £120,000 a year, but a leading steeplechase rider would do well to accumulate £60,000. And this, of course, applies only to a select few. Possibly 20 jockeys on the Flat would earn a prosperous living, but in steeplechasing only the top half dozen.

The breeders are the men who supply the raw material for racing. There again it is only a few who skim off the cream. And the astronomical figures realised at the October Premier Yearling sales give a distorted view of the picture. The average price realised at this auction in 1981 was 42,195 guineas. Home-bred stock averaged 29,348 guineas compared with an average of 44,261 guineas for Irish and foreign-bred stock.

An analysis of the other yearling sales shows a disturbing picture. At the second Newmarket sales the average price was 8,063 guineas and at Doncaster 6,912 guineas. But the middle price, that is to say the money paid for the yearling who is half way down the list, sold for 5,000 guineas at Doncaster. And it has been estimated that the cost of putting a yearling in the sale ring is about £7,000, excluding stallion fees and the depreciation of the mare.

Now for the racecourses. All courses represent an under-utilisation of plant and the return on the capital involved is negligible. Apart from courses such as Ascot, Newmarket and York, few would be considered economically viable. Tim Nelligan is the managing director of United Racecourses, who control Epsom, Sandown Park and Kempton Park.



"Epsom is entirely dependent on Derby day," Mr Nelligan says. "Kempton has possibilities but Sandown is the only one of our courses that is viable in ordinary commercial terms. In other words we make an acceptable 15 per cent return on capital. But this is mainly due to such activities as exhibitions and outside functions. We could not possibly achieve this target if we relied on racing. Quite honestly it hardly matters at all if we race on unprofitable days. Of course we want to race to help with the levy, but as far as we are concerned we are lucky to break even most of the time."

The other contributors to prize money, the sponsors, are now an indispensable part of the scene. Their contributions in 1981 amounted to a total of £2,684,863. The sport would be in an even worse position than it is already without their continued support.

We have already stated that the owners and the punters are the mainstay of the industry. Are they getting a fair deal? The most general criticism levelled against the Levy Board and the Jockey Club is that too much money is given to classic and pattern races and that support to those in need is by and large neglected.

Subsidizing the rich

As to the rights of the punter, critics of the present policy point out that it is politically immoral that the hard earned money deducted from the punter should be used to subsidize the rich owners and breeders, who are well capable of looking after themselves. But surely this is an emotive point of view.

As long as the punter gets a fair run for his money and competitive racing to bet on, his needs are being catered for. And do not forget that 10 times more than the money he pays in tax goes to the Exchequer compared with that returned to the sport. This is the root cause of the problem. In France and in other countries the racing industry receives a far larger proportion of the betting take thereby ensuring a more equitable distribution of prize money.

So whatever their critics may say the authorities in this country are faced with an impossible dilemma. If we are to maintain our role as a major racing power, most of the available prize money will have to continue to be devoted to the prestige races. This policy has been modified to some extent. In the next prize money scheme a higher proportion of the funds available will be devoted to the middle range of events than to the classic and pattern races.

There is not enough money to be distributed for everyone to be satisfied. It is as simple as that. And as no government is in the habit of reducing taxation, particularly in the present economic climate, the situation appears likely to remain the same, with most of the racing industry going through an even tougher time than it is at present and the strong inevitably continuing to profit at the expense of their weaker brethren.

Right portents for Harwood's stars

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Cuy Harwood has come a long way in the 16 years that he has been a trainer's son. Then he began he had 12 horses in his yard at Combeblades on the outskirts of Fulbourn, Suffolk, and he owned them all. Now he has 121 belonging to 91 different owners.

That he has 30 more horses and 40 more owners than this time 12 months ago is not surprising because in racing success generates success. Last season a triumphant one for him. He ended the year third in the trainers' list, having won 97 races and £489,000 prize money in this country, not counting his pickings abroad which included the French 2,000 guineas.

Among his new owners are Prince Khalid Abdullah, Prince Ahmad Ben Salman Al Saud, Prince Faisal, Prince Khalid, Sheikh Maktoom, Sheikh Mohamed, M A Mutawa and Stavros Niarchos.

Harwood's increased dependence on the American market can be gauged by the fact that more than half of the 76 two-year-olds that he has in training there were bred in the United States.

Yesterday was his annual open day to the press. The gallops were kissed with warm sunshine. The horses looked at the best for it after the long, cold, wet winter. In two-and-threes some 36 of the stable strode past us, most of them hard and already summer-coated.

The classic trials at Kempton and Salisbury will point in the direction in which they will go. Now (Craven Stakes, Chester Vase and the Derby) and Treboro (Jockey Club Stakes, the Derby) are the principal Epsom hopes, though Harwood does not rule out Santa Monica.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

The classic trials at Kempton and Salisbury will point in the direction in which they will go. Now (Craven Stakes, Chester Vase and the Derby) and Treboro (Jockey Club Stakes, the Derby) are the principal Epsom hopes, though Harwood does not rule out Santa Monica.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Treboro was as good as any in the yard until he was injured on the gallops in September. He was in his box for the next three months, but he is fine again now, and not one to be discounted.

Make or break year for a floundering small-time trainer

By John Karter, Racing Editor

A time bomb is ticking away beneath Ron Atkins' world. It has nothing to do with the fact that his stables at the picturesque Surrey village of Elstead are surrounded by Ministry of Defence land where soldiers act out the business of war. Atkins himself has primed the device which is set to go off around June. After four years of struggle to eke out a living from the increasingly stony ground of racecourse training he has decided that this current National Hunt season will be make or break for him.

Many successful trainers are born to the profession and some have lucrative family businesses to fall back on in hard times. Atkins had neither advantage. In racing terms he was hardly bred for the job, being by a cobbler out of a chorist girl. But, being small and tough (he considered a career as a boxer after becoming a schoolboy champion), he was ideally equipped by nature for a career as a jockey.

After a broken cheekbone, nose, seven collarbones, 13 ribs, hands and feet, fingers and toes, and a leg (which broke in the season kept him out of action for two and a half months), as well as numerous bouts of concussion and an ear almost ripped off, his decision four years ago to train as well as ride clearly came as much from the head as the heart. Atkins wanted a ready-made alternative in the event of one fall too many bringing an end to his riding career.



Ron Atkins: Needs one outstanding horse to elevate him to the big time:

and sold the animal at Ascot Sales for £1,000. The police were called in, but as Atkins had filled in the sales forms in the proper way several weeks previously, they were satisfied that the matter was civil one. It seems absurd that such desperate action should be necessary, but there is no doubt that some owners do abuse the system.

It is difficult to imagine how a man like Atkins can ever hope to make ends meet. Even lowering fees below

break-even point will not lure leading owners, who prefer to pay more and send their horses to the leading trainers. But that is not where the big money lies anyway. Just as the remarkable Heighlin was the making of another former jockey, David Elsworth, when he started training, what Atkins needs to make the breakthrough is one outstanding racehorse.

Apart from the obvious publicity and increase in reputation there is a share in

A French dish to drool over

By Desmond Stoneham

Like most racing nations, French finances were adversely affected in 1981 by a lowering which is still running about 10 per cent below the domestic inflation rate. During 1981 the French punter invested 23,074 billion francs (about £2.1bn) on the parimutuel tote which was a 5.38 per cent increase on the previous year's figure. Out of this figure the government picked up a handsome 4,177 billion francs (£380m).

Prize money and such things as travelling allowances, owners and breeders prizes came to a total of 826 million francs (£75m) in 1981, which broken down further reveals the allocation of 354 million francs (42.86 per cent) for the Flat, 149 million for steeplechasing (18.04 per cent) and the balance of 323 millions (39.10 per cent) for the rather tedious trotting game. No doubt these figures make the administrators of racing in England drool with good reason as they are bettered by few countries with comparable racing industries.

For both 1980 and 81 around 60 per cent of horses trained in France covered their training costs, but this astonishing figure is most unlikely to be maintained for 1982 as prize money has hardly been increased at all. In fact, most group races return to their 1980 levels and the money saved will be used to augment lesser events which previously had a value to the winner of 70,000 francs or less.

TOMORROW: GAMBLING

مركز الاحصاء

Edited by Peter Dear

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Fest. For the hearing impaired
9.47 Part two of Thumbelina 10.04 How water is
collected, stored and processed 10.16 A visit to a
French hypermarket 10.38 The changing role of
women in society 11.02 Living during the Great
Flood 11.15 The story of the creation of the
Queen 12.00 Wladimir J. Zeman's *Jonah*
Rossby and Lady Delphinium. For the very young.
12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets 12.30
Movie Moments. Roy Hudd presents some
viewers' film clip requests with guest Kenneth
Cope 1.00 The 1950s 1.30 The 1960s 2.00
Crown Court. Day two of Talking to the Enemy
2.20 After Moon Pals: Among the items is a visit
by Kay Avila to a pizza pie factory, set up seven
years ago for three housewives 2.45 The Six
Sisters collection. A new edition of an
accusation of cowardice (t) 3.45 Defiance.
Crossword quiz presented by Don Mess.

11.00 Dream of Riches:
A Book at Bedtime: "Gorky
Park," by Martin Cruz Smith (5)
11.15 The Last Days of Tompkins
11.25 Today in Parliament
12.00 News and Weather.

ENGLAND: VHF with 11 above
except as follows: 6.25-6.30am
Weather and Travel, 10.00 For
Schools: 10.00 Music: Mavis
10.10 Something to Think
About, 10.30-10.45 Listen with
Mother, 11.00-12.00 For
Schools: 11.00 Singing Together,
11.20-12.00 News and Weather,
Quintessence Programme News,
2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00
Movement and Drama 1, 2.25
Children's Dancing, 2.45-3.40
5.50-6.45 PM (continued),
11.00 Study on 4: African and
Caribbean Writing, 11.30-
12.10am Open University
Portraits, 11.50 Royal
Preferences.

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read.
9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee
Travis. 5.00 Peter Burnett. 7.30 Steve
Winhi. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Radio
1 Mailbag: Phone-in on 01-580 4411.
8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.†
12.00 Midnight and Close.
VHF Radios 1 and 2. 5.00am with
Radio 2. 8.00pm Alan Dale. 9.30 The
New Swingle Singers.† 8.00 The Folk
Entertainers.† 9.30 Sounds of the Sun.
9.45 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio
1. 12.00-5.00 With Radio 2.

HSC World Service can be received in
 Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz
 (141cm) at the following times GMT:-
 Newsweek 7.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 London 7.00 Book/Children 7.45 report
 8.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.15 The Sound of Instruments 8.30 Animal,
 Vegetable or Mineral? 9.00 World News
 9.15, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.15 The World
 Today 9.30 Financial News 9.40 Look Ahead
 9.45 Terry Noonan's Affairs 10.00
 1.15, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.15 A Man of
 Pleasure 11.00 World News 11.05 News
 about Britain 11.15 London News
 11.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.15 The World Today 12.00
 1.15 Newsweek 12.25 The Farming World
 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00
 1.15, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.15 The World
 Today 1.30 Radio Theatre 2.15 Report on Radio
 2.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.30 Newsweek 2.45
 2.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.50 World News 3.00
 3.00 World News 3.05
 3.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.10 World News 3.15
 3.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.20 World News 3.25
 3.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.30 World News 3.35
 3.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.40 World News 3.45
 3.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.50 World News 3.55
 4.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 4.00 World News 4.05
 4.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 4.10 World News 4.15
 4.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 4.20 World News 4.25
 4.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 4.30 World News 4.35
 4.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 4.40 World News 4.45
 4.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 4.50 World News 4.55
 5.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 5.00 World News 5.05
 5.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 5.10 World News 5.15
 5.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 5.20 World News 5.25
 5.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 5.30 World News 5.35
 5.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 5.40 World News 5.45
 5.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 5.50 World News 5.55
 6.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 6.00 World News 6.05
 6.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 6.10 World News 6.15
 6.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 6.20 World News 6.25
 6.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 6.30 World News 6.35
 6.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 6.40 World News 6.45
 6.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 6.50 World News 6.55
 7.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 7.00 World News 7.05
 7.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 7.10 World News 7.15
 7.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 7.20 World News 7.25
 7.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 7.30 World News 7.35
 7.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 7.40 World News 7.45
 7.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 7.50 World News 7.55
 8.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 8.00 World News 8.05
 8.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 8.10 World News 8.15
 8.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 8.20 World News 8.25
 8.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 8.30 World News 8.35
 8.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 8.40 World News 8.45
 8.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 8.50 World News 8.55
 9.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 9.00 World News 9.05
 9.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 9.10 World News 9.15
 9.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 9.20 World News 9.25
 9.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 9.30 World News 9.35
 9.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 9.40 World News 9.45
 9.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 9.50 World News 9.55
 10.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 10.00 World News 10.05
 10.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 10.10 World News 10.15
 10.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 10.20 World News 10.25
 10.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 10.30 World News 10.35
 10.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 10.40 World News 10.45
 10.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 10.50 World News 10.55
 11.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 11.00 World News 11.05
 11.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 11.10 World News 11.15
 11.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 11.20 World News 11.25
 11.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 11.30 World News 11.35
 11.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 11.40 World News 11.45
 11.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 11.50 World News 11.55
 12.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 12.00 World News 12.05
 12.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 12.10 World News 12.15
 12.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 12.20 World News 12.25
 12.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 12.30 World News 12.35
 12.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 12.40 World News 12.45
 12.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 12.50 World News 12.55
 1.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.00 World News 1.05
 1.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.10 World News 1.15
 1.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.20 World News 1.25
 1.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.30 World News 1.35
 1.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.40 World News 1.45
 1.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 1.50 World News 1.55
 2.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.00 World News 2.05
 2.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.10 World News 2.15
 2.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.20 World News 2.25
 2.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.30 World News 2.35
 2.40, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.40 World News 2.45
 2.50, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 2.50 World News 2.55
 3.00, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.00 World News 3.05
 3.10, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.10 World News 3.15
 3.20, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.20 World News 3.25
 3.30, 12.00, 19.00, 20.00
 3.30 World News 3.35
 3.40, 12.00, 1

- 4.15 **Cartoon: Doctor Snuggles with the voice of Peter Ustinov (?)**
- 4.20 **Animals in Action.** How they protect themselves
- 4.45 **Murphy's Mob.** Drama series about a football club
- 5.15 **Mr Merlin.** Comic adventures of a wizard disguised as a giraffe mascot
- 5.45 **News 6.00.** British news with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter
- 6.25 **Help! Viv Taylor** Gee with news of an organization called Foresight, which is advocating a method of preventing handicapped babies up to six months from conception
- 6.35 **Crossroads.** Eddile Lee makes a serious threat
- 7.00 **This is Your Life.** Eamonn, his red book and some relatives combine to embarrass another celebrity
- 7.15 **Question Set.** What has Brian been doing in Cairo?
- 8.00 **Starburst.** Fast moving variety show. Among the guests are Ted Rogers, Una Stubbs and the Stylistics

3.00	News and Travel
3.05	"The Dizzy Turn" by Lynn
3.08	Ragone.
3.50	Smith Invades the Capital. P
4.00	Smith explores.
4.45	Enterprise with Marjorie Le
	thouse.
	Story Time:"The Last Reaso
	Pamela Hanford Johns
5.00	PM.
5.55	Weather, Programme News.
6.00	News and Financial Report.
6.05	My Word! A panel game.
7.00	News.
7.05	The Archers.
7.20	A Good Night Out (new serie
7.45	Three Wise Guys and One
	Two Dolls.
8.45	News, a Bit by Leonora
	Burgas.
8.50	Fit on 4.
9.30	Kaleidoscope.
9.59	Weather.
10.00	The World Tonight.
10.30	Defence (new series). Cr
	and defence in London (19

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News
7.05 Your Midweek Choice. Record requests: Back, Copland.
8.00 News.
8.05 Your Midweek Choice (continued) Rozsin, Grieg, Kodaly.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer Lasts: Beethoven, Liszt.
10.00 BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra Concert: Schubert, Mozart, Liszt.
11.05 BBC Southern Symphony Orchestra Concert.
11.35 Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. Mahler: Symphony No 6.
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert Hall direct from Broadcasting House, London. Oboe and piano recital. Hayden, Tchaikovsky, Dutilleul, Kallawa. Liszt.
2.00 Music Weekly.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.†
10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Gloria
Hunniford.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00
David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and
Sport.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 7.30
International Soccer Special.† 9.45
Sounds of the Sun (continued from
yesterday). 10.00 You've Got to be joking.
10.30 Be My Guest. 11.00 Brian
Matthew.† from midnight, 1.00
Truckers' Hour.† 2.00 You and the
Night and the Music.†

9.00 **Mindread, Poetic Justice** — Imiti? Arthur to the surprise of all concerned, friends and law alike, is chosen for jury service. How can he trust to look after his Aladdin's Cave while he performs his citizen's duty? Put-upon Terry comes to the rescue again but he is sidetracked by his former stripper-turned hairdresser girlfriend who is witness to a robbery

10.00 **News**

10.30 **Film: Vampira (1974)** starring David Niven. A spoof send-up of 1940's *Transylvania*. The aristocrat. He plays host to a group of tourists looking over his castle. Among them are four pretty girls, winners of a "Most Bitesize Playmate of the Month" competition. Just what he needs to bring his beloved wife back to life

12.10 **Close with Roy Plomley** reading some of his favourite poetry.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m, Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m, Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz, Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m, Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz, Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m, LBC MF 1152kHz/281m, VHF 97.3MHz, Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz, BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz, World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

TYNE TEES

YORKSHIRE
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30
News, 2.45-3.45 Trapper John, 5.15-
5.45 Private Benjamin, 6.00-6.35
Calendar.

TVS
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30
News, 2.45-3.45 Great Depression,
5.15 Radio, 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast,
6.00-6.35 Coast to Coast, 12.10 am
Company, followed by Closedown.


BORDER
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30
News, 2.45-3.45 Bracken, 5.15-5.45
Radio, 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast, 12.20
am News, 12.25 Closedown.

ANGLIA
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30
News, 2.45-3.45 Trapper John, 5.15-
5.45 Happy Days, 6.00-6.35 About
You, 12.10 am Big Question,
Closedown.

ULSTER
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30

TYNE TEES

As Thamos except: Starts 9.20 am
Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm
News. 1.25-1.30 Where the jobs are.
2.45 Royal Film Performance 1992.
with Chris Kelly and Judith Chalmers.
3.30-4.45 Sound of. . . New Seekers.
5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00
News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00
Northern Life, with Tom Coyne. 12.10
am Three Million and Rising. 12.15
Close-down.



CHANNEL

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30-7.00 World. 12.10 am Epitaphs followed by Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.00 Mr & Mrs. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flugs. 2.00 Crown Court. 2.30 Sound of Vinyl. H. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression: America. 6.00 This is your night. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 12.10 am Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression. 5.10 Teatime Talks. 6.00-6.15 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Action Line. 6.20-7.00 Report. 12.05 am Late Call. 12.10 Entertainment. Elkie Brooks. 12.40 Closedown.


HTV WEST

As Thames except: 12.0 pm-1.30

TSW
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15-6.00 Queer Honeybees. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Top Gun South West. 5.30-7.00 Scare South West. 12.10 am Postscript, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN
As Thames except: 9.25 am-9.30 Flamingo. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression: America. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00-5.35 North Tonight. 12.05 am News. 12.10 Closedown.

CENTRAL
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30
News, 2.45-3.45 Last of Summer:
Romie Masterson, 5.15-5.45 Radio
6.00 Crossroads, 6.25-7.00 News:
Introduced by Bob Warrman, Wandy
Nelson, Nick Owen and Anne
Diamond, 7.30 Film: Wild Bunch,
William Holden, Ernest Borgnine,
struggle to come to terms with the
rapidly-changing west of 1914. 1.10
am Closedown.



Ted Rogers: ITV 8.00pm

HTV CYMRU/WALES

HTV WEST except: 12.00-12.10
pm Tg Each TWTF 12.15-1.00
Merlin 4.45-5.10 V Rhettfordd Gudd.
5.10-5.20 Dick Tracy. 6.00-6.30
Report Wales.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: 1 STEREO
* BLACK AND WHITE: (IF REPEAT,

Ted Rogers: ITV 8.00pm

Reading out judgments

Counsel asked the appellant to look at photocopies of two letters; one allegedly was written to the appellant by the co-defendant, and the other allegedly was a falsity of the figure. The second was allegedly a reply by the appellant.

The appellant said that he had no recollection of those letters, and suggested that they must have been forged. He asked to see the originals but was told that they could not be traced.

He said that since the appellant had no reason to doubt the genuineness of the photocopies or to believe that his client would not give evidence to explain his absence from the trial, he would for the absence of the originals, as eventually he did.

But it was said that counsel, appreciating that the appellant was not a lawyer, should have ensured that the rules relating to the admissibility of the documents before they went to the jury.

There was a situation which, in the recollection of all counsel concerned in the appeal, had not arisen before and it was therefore useful for guidance to be given.

As a general rule it could not be doubted that counsel and the court should ensure that documents should not be admitted in evidence until their admissibility, if questioned, had been decided.

For that to be done some steps should be given by the appellant to ensure that the documents were not admitted in evidence until their admissibility had been decided.

the defendant was misrepresented the guidance of the court should be sought.

In all cases it was desirable to prevent any party being taken by surprise, and to afford a fair opportunity for other parties to consider the admissibility of the documents. If necessary all parties should have an opportunity to examine the documents.

The words "as a general rule" must be stressed. It should not be forgotten that in the present case the documents, if admitted, would advance the co-defendant's case and to undermine the evidence given by the appellant.

In fairness it had to be said that the court did not, nor the judge had any indication that there would be any challenge to the genuineness of the documents.

Where a party affected contended that documents were not genuine his counsel generally would ask for an opportunity to have them tested, and to be able to ascertain that the issue of their genuineness would have to be left to the jury.

In rare cases there might have been a claim to a trial as to admissibility, but if the party seeking for admission of documents contended that they were genuine the issue of their genuineness would be left to the jury, and much the same would be as was done in this case.

Solicitors: Mr Peter K. L. Davies, Budleigh Salterton; Mr J. I. Moore, Northampton.

Practice Direction
Following a call by Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce in *Chilean Nitrate Sales Corporation v. Marine Transportations Co. S.A.* (The "Tanco" (1951) 2 Lloyd's Rep. 101), the Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Wainman, gave a practice direction on the delivery of judgments on the delivery of judgments.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS
said he would like to say a word about the delivering of judgments in the Court of Appeal.

"The court still regards it of the first importance that all the proceedings in the court should be conducted in public and this includes the delivering of our judgments, together with the reasons therefor, to everyone who wishes to do so and come into the court and hear what takes place; and also so that the public may take it down for their own use.

"In order to help the official shorthand-writers and members of the public in the case of judgment, we will hand out our draft judgments to the public as follows following the judgment and preparing their various reports.

"The practice will continue to be that our judgments fully,

Regina v Home Office, Ex parte Gaffney

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Lloyd and Mr Justice Bastham

[Judgment delivered March 23]

Where a defendant spent separate periods in custody relating to different offences, connected to the particular offences, it was held when considering credit for periods of imprisonment under section 67(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, the Divisional Court held that when refusing an application for committal proceedings to be discontinued under section 67(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 provides: "The length of any sentence of imprisonment imposed on an offender by a court shall be taken into account by any court in determining whether it is just to order that sentence to be discontinued by reason only of having been committed to custody by an order of a court made in connexion with proceedings relating to that sentence or the offence in which it was passed or any proceedings from which those proceedings arose."

Mr Graham Parkins for the

applicant, Mr. Simon D. Brown for the Home Office.

JOHN E. EASTHAM said that the matter concerned a short and difficult point on the proper construction of section 67(1) in order to establish the date of the applicant's proper release date.

Mr. Eastham said that in 1974 Ipswich Crown Court on May 14, 1974 and 24, 1974 and was convicted for offences of dishonesty.

Between June 6 and July 2, he was in custody pending release for the offences for which he was convicted, and he would be given credit for that period in custody of 26 days. When the applicant appeared on July 2 Ipswich Crown Court deferred the case.

The applicant committed further offences and on October 4, he was convicted by Middlesex Crown Court for the same offences. He was committed to custody at Ipswich Prison for the offences, spending a second period in custody between October 4 and December 1, 1974.

The Crown court deals with the sentencing for both the Ipswich and Middlesex Crown Court offences. He received three years' imprisonment for Middlesex but

offences and a concurrent 37 months' sentence for the Ipswich offence.

The applicant contended that the two periods he had spent in custody should be added together and he should be given credit for the total period.

The Home Office maintained that the first period in custody of 26 days was relevant to the sentence for the Ipswich offence and that the second period in custody, when he was committed to the prison by the three justices, was relevant to the sentence for the Middleborough offences.

His Lordship had come to the conclusion that the Home Office's construction was the right one and therefore in relation to the 37 months' imprisonment for the Ipswich offences the applicant was only entitled to credit for the 26 days in custody.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, agreeing said that although the applicant appeared to be unjustly he was forced to the conclusion because of the wording of the statute.

Mr Justice Lloyd agreed.

Solicitors: Pretty, Ipswich; Treasury Solicitor.

...in some cases, if the defendants are unduly long, they are required by the court to summarize to give the general effect."

Attempt with wrong key.

Callahan v. Hogan, 1970-1 CB 229. Where an unfit driver had no authorization key, but was sitting in the driver's seat attempting to insert another key into the ignition, the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr. Justice McNeill) held on March 12, 1970, that he was properly convicted of attempting to drive while unfit under section 5(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1970.

The position was the same as a burglar carrying a jemmy of the wrong size and the facts fell within the fourth category of *R v. Smith*, [1975] AC 413.

Jelly v Hogan
Where an unfit driver had no protection key, but was sitting in driver's seat attempting to insert other keys into the ignition, the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice McNeill) held on March 1 that he was properly convicted of attempting to drive while unfit through drink or drugs, contrary to section 5(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1972.

The position was the same as a burglar carrying a jemmy of the wrong size and the facts fall within the fourth category of offences described in *R v Smith (Roger)* [1975] AC 476.

At Radio Rentals we make it easy on your pocket because by renting you don't have to pay out a lot of money on a video you might wish to change later.

That aside, this model boasts so many features, like the amazing 42-button remote control and Dolby* sound, that to do them justice would take a book. Instead, we invite you to have a free in-home demonstration.

Then, you can mull over its many advantages and those of Radio Rentals. Like our fast, friendly service and this guarantee: should you be dissatisfied in any way within the first month we'll refund every penny.

Radio

So if you'd like the easy way, call Radio Rentals for a free demonstration.

Rentals

Looking forward to the future, and to looking after you.

VHS Model 8924 (made in Japan) with 14-day timer and remote control. Installed for £13. Trade mark of Dolby Laboratories Inc. Recording and playback of material may require Model subject to availability. Minimum rental period of 1 month. No guarantee of no increase in the agreement. In the event of such a rental increase the agreement may be terminated by you.

A vintage television set with a large screen displaying a scene with a person, and a control panel below the screen. The television is shown from a three-quarter perspective, highlighting its boxy design and the integrated stand at the base. The screen shows a dark scene with a person in the center, possibly a performer. The control panel below the screen has several knobs and buttons, typical of mid-20th-century electronics. The overall image has a grainy, high-contrast quality, characteristic of older newspaper advertisements.

